Mowdy among 11 newest ECCC baseball signees

OF January 28, 2013

Numerous high school baseball standouts have signed national letters of intent to continue their athletic careers at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The 11 student-athletes were recognized during a special ceremony held Jan. 15 in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman said he is "very pleased" with the recent additions to the Diamond Warrior program.

"This is a tremendous start on our signing class for 2013," said Coach Holliman. "We are very excited about these young men as additions to our baseball program as well as their ability to succeed in the classroom. The total package is very important to us at East Central and our past has shown success in both areas as we have been ranked nationally both athletically and academically. These additions are a tribute to the hard work of assistant coaches Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson."

Joining the Diamond Warriors in 2013-14 are as follows:

• Zach Mowdy, a 6', 190-pound southpaw from Union High School. Honors include the All-District Pitcher Award. His high school coach is Dustin Hamrick. Mowdy's parents are Sean and Amanda Mowdy of Union.

Coach Holliman said of Mowdy: "He has the ability to throw from different arm angles that we believe will be vital to his success. He is a very determined person and pitcher that will continue to improve and be a quality addition to our pitching staff."

• Nick Wilson, a 5-7, 190-pound southpaw from Terry High School. Honors include second team All-District. His high school coach is Jerry Gibson. Wilson's parents are Jay Wilson and Shelley Wilson, both of Byram.

Coach Holliman said of Wilson: "He has the ability to be a pitcher and hitter and will contribute to our team in a very positive manner. He possesses a loose arm and has a solid breaking ball ed pitcher from Madison-Ridgeland Academy. His high school coach is Allen Pavatte. McCullough's parents are John and Cheryl McCullouch of Madison.

Coach Holliman said of McCullouch: "He also played on the state championship team at Madison-Ridgeland Academy. Kyle is a big physical player that hits from the left side and runs well. He has a very good upside and we expect him to provide stability to the middle of the lineup as a freshman."

• Hunter Thrower, a 5-9, 165-pound middle infielder from Southeast Lauderdale High School. Honors include Best Infielder Award 2012 and All-District. He also helped lead Southeast Lauderdale to the Class 3A State Championship. His high school coach is Shay Cooper. Thrower's parents are Troy and Shannon Flaskamp of Meridian.

Coach Holliman said of Thrower: "He played shortstop for Southeast Lauderdale when they won the State 3A title his junior season. He keeps things really simple and just catches the ball and throws it to first. He is a very consistent fielder and is a tough out at the plate."

• Colby Eaves, a 6-5, 230-pound right-handed pitcher from Nanih Waiya High School. Honors include selection as Class 1A Player of the Year. He also helped lead Nanih Waiya to two state championships. Tyler Rogers serves as head coach. Eaves' parents are Gail and Richard Eaves of Louisville.

Coach Holliman said of Eaves: "He played on back-to-back state championship teams in 2011 and 2012 at Nanih Waiya. Colby was a very heavily sought after pitcher throughout the state by several community colleges and universities. We expect Colby to provide immediate stability within the pitching rotation as we lose several starters on the mound next year. He also has the ability to be a dual player as a pitcher/hitter."

selected "King of the Hill" for three consecutive years at Wayne County High School and Wayne Academy. His high school coach is Justin Ainsworth. Pugh's parents are Evan Pugh and Crystal Bankston of Waynesboro.

Coach Holliman said of Pugh: "Blake is another player that we feel possesses tremendous upside. He throws downhill very well and possesses an out pitch in a slider. With continued consistency, Blake will be an impact pitcher. His was another arm that was sought after by others in the community college ranks."

• Dylan Little, a 6', 170-pound infielder from Mary G. Montgomery High School. Honors include Most Valuable Offensive Player 2012. His high coach is Terry Dixon. Little's parents are Patsy Little and Ken Little of Semmes, Ala.

Coach Holliman said of Little: "Dylan was another very heavily recruited infielder from Mary G. Montgomery High School in Semmes, AL. He possesses the ability to play all three positions on the infield and will also have an immediate impact from the left side of the plate."

• Regan Warren, a 6', 165-pound middle infielder/outfielder from Newton County High School. Honors include 300 Club (2012), Second Team All-District Hard Work Award and Most Valuable Defensive Player Award. His high school coach is Wyatt Tullos. Warren's parents are Greg and Becky Warren of Decatur.

Coach Holliman said of Warren: "Reagan is an athletic player that is still growing into his ability. He has a tremendous motor and with strength will continue to develop. He also hits from the left side of the plate and has the ability to play infield and outfield."

• Will Myers, a 6-2, 205-pound southpaw hurler/outfielder from Leake Academy. Honors include All Conference Right Fielder (twice), Batting Average Award (.452) and Honorable Mention Pitching Award. His high

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Coach Holliman said of Whitten: "Chance is another physical young man with the frame to be a very impressive player. With continued strength and weight, he will maximize his ability as a hitter working at first base and the outfield."

• Blake Pugh, a 6-2, 182-pound right-handed pitcher from Wayne Academy, Honors include District Most Valuable Player (twice), State Runner-Up in Strikeouts as a sophomore and

school coach is Josh Ray. Myers' parents are Tim and Vickie Myers of Philadelphia.

Coach Holliman said of Myers: "Without a question, Will has a tremendous work ethic and strength. He provides pop from the left side of the plate as well as a strong arm that allows us to use him in both aspects on the field.

For more information on the ECCC Baseball Program, contact Coach Neal Holliman, 601-635-6374 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 374. His e-mail address is nholliman@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF January 20, 2013

ECCC baseball season begins with First Pitch Dinner Feb. 2

From press reports

East Central Community College's baseball program officially ushers in the new season with the annual First Pitch Dinner scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.

Andy Phillips, an assistant baseball coach at the University of Alabama, will serve as guest speaker.

"Coach Phillips is an exceptional person who also experienced success as a collegiate and professional baseball player, and now as a coach," said ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman. "We look forward to hearing about his experiences as well as his guidance and motivation on what it takes to be a successful baseball player."

Phillips is a former baseball standout for the Crimson Tide and followed that success with a five-year stint in Major League Baseball.

He is in his third year as hitting and infield coach for Alabama head coach Mitch Gaspard.

"We are very fortunate to have Andy on our staff," said Coach Gaspard. "He was a phenomenal player here, and I couldn't be happier with his decision to return to Alabama. Andy is the most well rounded person I have ever coached, and been around."

A four-year letter winner (1996-99) and first-team All-American for Alabama (1999), Phillips played for the New York Yankees (2004-07), New York Mets (2008) and Cincinnati Reds (2008) during his Major League Baseball career.

In his four seasons at Alabama, Phillips posted a career .356 batting average with 61 home runs, 224 RBIs and 322 hits.

He ended his career as the all-time leader in home runs, RBIs and hits, and currently holds the school record in home runs, hits and total bases (590).

In the history of the Alabama baseball program, Philips is one of three players with 50 home runs and 200 RBIs, and one of four players with 300 hits.

The Crimson Tide advanced to the NCAA Tournament all four years of Phillips' career, including three College World Series appearances. He is one of two players to make three CWS appearances. As a freshman in 1996, Phillips was part of a 50-19 squad that captured the Southeastern Conference regular season and tournament titles and advanced to the College World Series.

Phillips was a seventh-round draft pick by the New York Yankees in 1999. He made his Major League debut on Sept. 14, 2004, and in his first at-bat, he belted a home run over the Green Monster in Fenway Park on the first pitch from Terry Adams.

He is one of seven players (EC alumnus Marcus Thames of Louisville is also included in the prestigious group) to homer in his first at-bat as a Yankee and became the 21st player in MLB history to hit a home run on the first pitch of his career.

Phillips is a native of Tuscaloosa but later moved to Demopolis, where he played baseball for the Demopolis Academy Generals. He was a 41st-round selection out of high school by the Milwaukee Brewers as a shortstop in 1995 but instead joined the Crimson Tide baseball program.

He and his wife, Bethany, have a daughter, Isaiah.

Tickets to the ECCC First Pitch Dinner are $25 for adults and $15 for children age 12 and under.

For more information, contact Coach Neal Holliman, 601-635-6374 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 374. The e-mail address is nholliman@eccc.edu.

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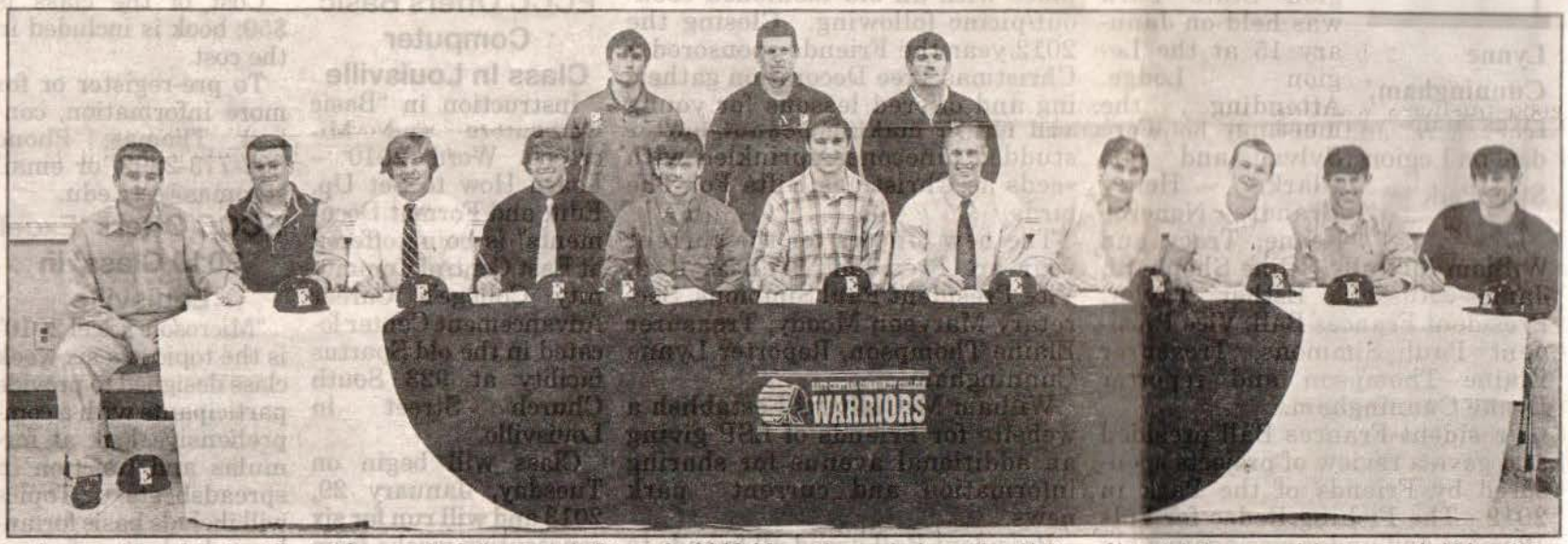
ECCC announces baseball team signees for upcoming season



New members of the East Central Community College baseball team for 2013-14 are shown signing national letters of intent during a special ceremony held Jan. 15 on the Decatur campus. Signees and their respective high schools include (seated from left) left-handed pitcher Zach Mowdy, Union; left-handed pitcher Nick Wilson, Terry; right-handed pitcher/infielder Ryan Ward and outfielder/right-handed pitcher Kyle McCullouch, both of Madison-Ridgeland Academy; middle infielder Hunter Thrower, Southeast Lauderdale; right-handed pitcher Colby Eaves, Nanih Waiya; first baseman/outfielder Chance Whitten, South Panola; right-handed pitcher Blake Pugh, Wayne Academy; infielder Dylan Little, Mary G. Montgomery HS, Semmes, AL; middle infielder/outfielder Reagan Warren, Newton County; and outfielder/left-handed pitcher Will Myers, Leake Academy. Standing from left are ECCC baseball coaches Justin Brewer, Neal Holliman (head) and Jack Edmonson. Regarding the signees, Coach Holliman said, "This is a tremendous start on our signing class for 2013. We are very excited about these young men as additions to our baseball program and as well their ability to succeed in the classroom. The total package is very important to us at East Central and our past has shown success in both areas as we have been ranked nationally both athletically and academically. These additions are a tribute to the hard work of our assistant coaches." (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF February 3, 2013

EC Diamond Warriors

Ready for season action are the above members of the 2013 East Central Community College baseball team. Diamond Warriors include first row, from left, middle infielder Deion Ulmer (16), outfielder/pitcher Jake Bush (32), second baseman/outfielder Zach May (38), second baseman/outfielder/catcher Kyle Henson (8), pitcher/third baseman Jordan Mixon (11), pitcher Mitchell Wooten (19), third baseman/first baseman Rubert Alcantara (25), pitcher/first baseman Caleb McKee (15) and pitcher Robert Greer (26), middle infielder John Bruening (3), and outfielder/first baseman Xzavier Franklin (5); second row, from left, head coach Neal Holliman; student assistant Slater Lott and pitcher Hunter Graham (21), infielder/outfielder Maxwell Harmon (10), pitcher Mason Woodrow (9), pitcher Fernando Gonzalez (14), pitcher Blake Dubuisson (30), pitcher Cory Kitchens (34), pitcher Nate Dickens (13), first baseman/outfielder John Morgan Berry (27), first baseman Caleb Woods (22); and assistant coaches Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson; and third row, outfielder Cojuante McMillian (39), infielder/outfielder Kalik May (2), pitcher Severino Signa (18), shortstop Tim Anderson (7), outfielder/catcher Chase Domino (6), pitcher Ty Hendrix (20), pitcher Brady McBride (23), pitcher Conner West (36), pitcher Channing Darty (33), outfielder Terrance Steele (1), first baseman/third baseman/outfielder Ryan Shotts (12); and pitcher Hunter Swart (37).

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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WEEK OF February 3, 2013

Veteran Warriors striving for consistency

By Austin Bishop
Special to The Star

DECATUR — If consistency is what you're looking for, it never hurts to have some experience.

And that's something the East Central Community College baseball team will have plenty of this season.

Holliman

The Warriors, who open the 2013 season at home on Saturday when they host Southwest Tennessee Community College, have got 15 sophomores expected to contribute this season.

"That's pretty good," said seventh-year head coach Neal Holliman. "We only had six sophomores last year, so we we are hoping the extra experience really helps us."

The Warriors will be counting on strong pitching, solid defense and an offense that manufactures runs, which all leads to close, low-scoring games.

"That's where we hope some of our experience comes in," Holliman said.

A lot of ECCC's experience can be found on the pitching staff. Something Holliman hopes gives his team an edge.

The five most likely to see the heaviest action as starters in the rotation are Sevy Signa, Blake Dubuisson, Fernando Gonzalez, Mitchel Wooten and Caleb McKee.

"We are excited to have Wooten and McKee return from injuries after they missed the 2012 seasons," Holliman said. "We really missed them last year, they would probably been two of the top guys in our rotation." McKee played his high school ball at Neshoba Central, while Wooten starred at Edinburg.

Holliman said having sophomores will give his team a little edge.

"It helps, there is no doubt about it," Holliman said. "If you do have the right guys you can win as freshmen, but having that year under their belt has to help."

When it comes to the offensive side of things, one of the players to watch is sophomore shortstop Tim Anderson, who has already signed to play for the University of Alabama-Birmingham next season.

Anderson was ECCC's MVP last season and was also named All-Region 23 as well as to the MACJC All-State team.

"He's a good player for sure," Holliman said. "The first thing I would characterize him as is a tremendous athlete. But, he's also coachable. Even with all of the publicity and attention he has gotten, he hasn't changed."

Chase Domino, Jordan Mixon, Kyle Henson and Kalik May are excepted to get a good look at catcher, while McKee and John Morgan Berry will share some playing time at first base.

Freshman Deon Ulmer and May are working at second base, while Ruberto Alcantara and Maxwell Harmon are at third.

Terrance Steele will play center field for the Warriors, while Ryan Shotts and Xavier Franklin are the guys to watch in the corner outfield spots. Domino, Zack May and Harmon will also be getting some looks in the outfield.

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WEEK OF February 3, 2013

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Nanih Waiya Baseball Standout Signs with ECCC

Nanih Waiya High School baseball standout Colby Eaves (seated center) of Louisville is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Eaves is a 6-5, 230-pound right-handed pitcher whose honors include Class 1A Player of the Year. He also helped lead Nanih Waiya to two state championships. Pictured with the new Diamond Warrior are (seated from left) his mother, Gail Eaves and grandfather, Paul Eaves; and (standing from left) ECCC assistant baseball coach Justin Brewer and head coach Neal Holliman; Nanih Waiya baseball coach Tyler Rogers; and ECCC assistant Jack Edmonson. Eaves is also the son of Richard Eaves. He was among 11 student-athletes who signed with East Central during a special ceremony held Jan. 15, 2013, in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF February 16, 2013

Paula Merritt/ The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Tim Anderson tags out Southwest Tennessee Community College's Nathan Van Nortwick during their home opener Saturday in Decatur.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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East Central takes two in opening doubleheader

In the opening game of the 2013 season East Central Community College took down Southwest Tennessee 3-0 at home on Saturday.

Leadoff batter, Tim Anderson led the Warriors in Game 1 going 3/4 with a single, double and triple. Ruebert Alcantara also had a productive day at the plate, batting 2/4 for the Warriors.

Starting pitcher Caleb McKee (1-0) earned the win for East Central pitching 4 2/3 innngs while striking out five batters and only allowing one hit.

Mason Woodrow was strong in relief for the Warriors, going 2 1/3 innings without giving up a hit and striking out four batters. Conner West earned the save, pitching 1 2/3 innings to complete the shutout.

East Central 8
SW Tennessee 3

In game two the Warriors were once again led by Anderson, who went 4-4 with three home runs and a triple to help East Central to a 8-3 win over Southwest Tennessee.

On the day, Anderson batted an outstanding 7/8 with three home runs, two triples, a double and single to go along with four RBIs.

Kalik May also had a big game for ECCC going 3/4 with three singles in game.

Blake Dubuissom earned the win for the Warriors, pitching five innings while allowing seven hits, two unearned runs and striking out four batters.

After the sweep, the Warriors move to 2-0 on the season and will play Tuesday at noon against Alabama Southern and then later at 6 p.m. against Northwest. In event of rain, both games will be moved to Wednesday.

Mt Salus 71
NCA boys 67

Newton County Academy could not overcome the loss of both Nate Johnson and Chance Collins Saturday night, as the Generals fell to Mt. Salus 71-67 in the consolation game of the MAIS District 5-1A tournament.

Johnson left the game and was escorted to an ambulance after knocking his head on the court while diving for a loose ball. Directly after impact, Johnson lifted his head when anonther player landed on him, causing him to hit his head again.

The junior was taken to a hospital in Jackson were he was listed in stable condition.

Collins left the game after taking an elbow to the head in the third quarter

Tre Collins led the Generals with 30 points and 19 rebounds, while Nick Pennington (19 points) and Tanner Smith (10 points, 10 rebounds) also had big nights.

Mt. Salus was led by Robert Davis who scored a game-high 42 points.

NCA will now be the No. 4 seed in the South Central Tournament.

NCA girls 47
Rebul Aca. 34

Katie Bounds and the Newton County girls basketball team beat Rebul Academy 47-34 Saturday in the consolation game of the MAIS District 5-1A tournament.

Bounds scored 24 points, whilel Faith Hollingsworth scored 13 points in the win.

NCA will be the No. 3 seed in the South Central Tournament.

Porter's Chapel 55
Russell boys 40

The Russell Christian Academy boys basketball team fell in the championship game of the MAIS District 5-1A tournament on Saturday, losing to Porter's Chapel 55-40.

Ashton Temple led te Warriors with 13 points, nine rebounds and three blocks.

RCA drops to 22-6 and will play Ben's Ford as the No. 2 seed in the South Central Tournament.

Friday: West boys 57
Louisville 55

West Lauderdale took down Louisville 57-55 Friday night.

J.D. Williams led the Knights with 22 points, while K.D. Edmonds scored 20 in the win.

West Lauderdale finished the regular season with a 16-8 record and will play Newton County in the first round of the district tournament on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in Laurel.

MCC splits with Faulkner State

The Meridian Community College Eagles returned to the baseball diamond Saturday afternoon at Scaggs Field and came away with a doubleheader split (3-7, 3-2) against Faulkner State Community College. MCC moved its 2013 record to 4-2 after the split, while the Sun Chiefs are now 2-1 for the season.

Lions split doubleheader at Wallace CC Selma

The visiting Lions of East Mississippi Community College split a pair of low-scoring baseball contests Saturday afternoon against Wallace Community College Selma, claiming a 2-1 win in the opener before falling 3-1 in the nightcap at Bloch Park.

Southeast Power Lifting

The SE Lauderdale boys Powerlifting team won the 3A Region 3 championship Friday (Feb. 8). Team metal winners were as follows:

Jakobe Wilson 1st place
Trent Hudson 3rd place
Amari Horton 2nd place
Javaris Deloach 1st place
Johnny Robinson 3rd
Dawyll Hopson 1st place
Dylan Willis 3rd place 198
Hezekiah Moss 2nd place
Mignon Madison 1st place
Habib Ruffin 2nd place
Dewayne Smith 1st place
Ian Gibson 1st place

All lifters qualified to compete in the South State Championship to be held in March.

WEEK OF February 17, 2013

ECCC wins one of four contests in Rush Invitational

After dropping their two Friday matchups in the annual Rush Invitational, East Central Community College's baseball squad rallied to win one of two contests in Sunday competition of the three-day event held at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus.

In games played Friday, the Diamond Warriors were defeated 10-3 in the tournament opener by Southeastern Iowa and were outscored 15-2 by Faulkner (Ala.) State in the nightcap.

Maxwell Harmon led EC hitters in the loss to Southeastern, as the Enterprise High School product belted two singles and was credited with two RBIs. Tim Anderson, a former standout at Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, also pounded two singles.

Other hitters were Rubert Alcantara of Saint George HS in the Dominican Republic, John Morgan Berry of Madison Central and Ryan Shotts of Louisville, singles each.

Runs were scored by Alcantara, Berry and Harmon.

Starter Caleb McKee took the loss on the mound, as the southpaw from Neshoba Central allowed four earned runs on four hits through 4 1/3 innings. McKee fanned 10 batters and walked two. In the setback to Faulkner State, Anderson led the EC offense with a solo homer in the fifth inning. Shotts, Harmon, Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County, Jake Bush of Brocton (Ala.) High School and Caleb Woods of Leake Central contributed singles each. Runs were scored by Anderson and Shotts.

Starter Fernado Gonzalez of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico took the loss. The right-hander hurled 5 2/3 innings and allowed five earned runs on 11 hits. He fanned six batters.

EC's offense came alive against Lincoln Land Sunday afternoon, with Anderson again leading the offense. The sophomore shortstop doubled in the third inning and singled in the first, fifth and seventh innings. He also scored three runs and knocked in a run.

Also having productive outings at the plate were Alcantara, double and two singles; Shotts and Chase, of Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School, double and single each; Bush, two singles; and McKee and May, singles each.

Domino led in RBIs with two. Bush, Anderson, Alcantara, May and Jordan Mixon of East Webster knocked in a run each.

EC scored two runs in the first, one in the third and added four runs in the eighth.

Lincoln tallied one run in the fourth inning and three runs in the ninth.

Right-hander Blake Dubuisson went the distance in earning the victory. Dubuisson allowed four runs on seven hits in the nine-inning battle. He also fanned eight batters. Dubuisson is a product of Long Beach High School.

Tournament action concluded Sunday with EC's rally falling short in a 5-4 loss to Baton Rouge. Anderson led EC sluggers with a home run, double and single. He was also the top run producer with two RBIs.

Other hitters were Zach May and Xavier Franklin, both of Newton County, doubles each; and Shotts, Domino and Harmon, singles each.

EC trailed 5-1 but narrowed the advantage with two runs in the sixth and one in the seventh and final inning.

Starter Severino Signa took the loss, allowing three earned runs on eight hits through 4 1/3 innings. He also fanned four batters and walked one.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

February 13, 2013

Two baseball standouts sign with EC

Union High School baseball standout Zach Mowdy (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Mowdy is a 6', 190-pound southpaw pitcher whose honors include All-District Pitcher Award. Pictured with the new Diamond Warrior are (seated from left) his parents, Amanda and Sean Mowdy of Union, and (standing from left) ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman and Union baseball coach Dustin Hamrick. Mowdy was among 11 student-athletes who signed with East Central during a special ceremony in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

EC photo

Newton County High School baseball standout Reagan Warren (seated center) of catur is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career at East Cen Community College in Decatur. Warren is a 6', 165-pound middle infielder whose hor include Most Valuable Defensive Player, Hard Work Award and Second Team All-I trict. Pictured with the new Diamond Warrior are (seated from left) ECCC head base coach Neal Holliman and Newton County baseball coach Wyatt Tullos and (stanc from left) Warren's parents, Becky and Greg Warren, and his sister, Bailey War Warren was among 11 student-athletes with signed with East Central during a spe ceremony in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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WEEK OF February 17, 2013

EC baseball takes one of four

From school reports

After dropping their two Friday matchups in the annual Rush Invitational, East Central Community College's baseball squad rallied to win one of two contests in Sunday competition of the three-day event held at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus.

In games played Friday, the Diamond Warriors were defeated 10-3 in the tournament opener by Southeastern Iowa and were outscored 15-2 by Faulkner (Ala.) State in the nightcap.

Maxwell Harmon led EC hitters in the loss to Southeastern, as the Enterprise High School product belted two singles and was credited with two RBIs. Tim Anderson, a former standout at Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, also pounded two singles.

Other hitters were Rubert Alcantara of Saint George HS in the Dominican Republic, John Morgan Berry of Madison Central and Ryan Shotts of Louisville, singles each.

Runs were scored by Alcantara, Berry and Harmon.

Starter Caleb McKee took the loss on the mound, as the southpaw from Neshoba Central allowed four earned runs on four hits through 4 1/3 innings. McKee fanned 10 batters and walked two.

In the setback to Faulkner State, Anderson led the EC offense with a solo homer in the fifth inning. Shotts, Harmon, Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County, Jake Bush of Brocton (Ala.) High School and Caleb Woods of Leake Central contributed singles each. Runs were scored by Anderson and Shotts.

Starter Fernado Gonzalez of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico took the loss. The right-hander hurled 5 2/3 innings and allowed five earned runs on 11 hits. He fanned six batters.

EC's offense came alive against Lincoln Land Sunday afternoon, with Anderson again leading the offense. The sophomore shortstop doubled in the third inning and singled in the first, fifth and seventh innings. He also scored three runs and knocked in a run.

Also having productive outings at the plate were Alcantara, double and two singles; Shotts and Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School, double and single each; Bush, two singles; and McKee and May, singles each.

Domino led in RBIs with two. Bush, Anderson, Alcantara, May and Jordan Mixon of East Webster knocked in a run each.

EC scored two runs in the first, one in the third and added four runs in the eighth.

Lincoln tallied one run in the fourth inning and three runs in the ninth.

Right-hander Blake Dubuisson went the distance in earning the victory. Dubuisson allowed four runs on seven hits in the nine-inning battle. He also fanned eight batters. Dubuisson is a product of Long Beach High School.

Tournament action concluded Sunday with EC's rally falling short in a 5-4 loss to Baton Rouge.

Anderson led EC sluggers with a home run, double and single. He was also the top run producer with two RBIs.

Other hitters were Zach May and Xavier Franklin, both of Newton County, doubles each; and Shotts, Domino and Harmon, singles each.

EC trailed 5-1 but narrowed the advantage with two runs in the sixth and one in the seventh and final inning.

Starter Severino Signa took the loss, allowing three earned runs on eight hits through 4 1/3 innings. He also fanned four batters and walked one. Signa is a product of Deer Creek High School.

Hinds Community College also participated in the Rush Invitational.

The Diamond Warriors, now 3-3 on the young season, host Shelton State (Ala.) Community College Wednesday, Feb. 20, beginning at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. The first contest is a nine-inning battle and will be followed by a seven-inning matchup.

Home games are also scheduled Saturday, Feb. 23, with Lawson State (Ala.) Community College at 3 p.m. followed by a matchup with Kaskasia (Ill.) Community College at 6 p.m. Both are nine-inning contests.

EC's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 27, 2013

Diamond Warriors sweep Lawson

After trailing 4-0 in the first inning, East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors rallied for four runs in the third and added three runs in the fifth and eighth innings en route to an 11-6 victory in the first game with Lawson State (Ala.) Community College Feb. 24 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur.

EC completed the sweep with a 4-2 decision in the nightcap to improve to 5-4 on the young season.

Terrance Steele homered and Zach May and Deion Ulmer contributed three hits each to lead EC's offense in the opener.

Steele's solo shot came in the three-run eighth inning. The sophomore outfielder is a product of Neshoba Central High School.

May tripled in the fifth inning and belted singles in the third and sixth innings to complete a perfect day at the plate. The Newton County High School product also scored two runs.

Ulmer, a freshman from Laurel, slapped three singles and was credited with two RBIs. He also scored twice.

Other hitters included Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School, two singles and one RBI; Rubert Alcantara of Saint George High School, Dominican Republic, triple and three RBIs; Tim Anderson of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala., double and RBI; and Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County, Xzavier Franklin of Newton County, John Morgan Berry of Madison Central, Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise, and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy, singles each.

Starter Severino Signa recorded the win for EC, allowing six earned runs on nine hits through six innings. He fanned six batters and walked two. Signa is right-handed sophomore hurler from Deer Creek High School.

In the second contest, EC grabbed the lead in the third inning after Alcantara's RBI double scored Anderson, who had a perfect day at the plate with a triple in the third inning and singles in the first and fifth frames. Anderson was also credited with an RBI and scored a run.

Alcantara added a single to his totals for the day and finished with two RBIs.

Other hitters were Jake Bush of Brookwood High School in West Blocton, Ala., two singles; and Shotts and Henson, singles each. Bush also scored two runs.

Blake Dubuisson picked up the win for EC, as the sophomore right-hander from Long Beach allowed two earned runs on six hits through 5 2/3 innings. He fanned three batters and walked one. Right-hander Fernando Gonzalez hurled the final 1 1/3 innings to earn the save. Gonzalez fanned two batters and allowed no hits or runs. He is a sophomore right-hander from Colegio San Ignacio High School in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.

EC travels to Pensacola Junior College Feb. 27 in doubleheader action getting under way at 2 p.m. on the Pensacola, Fla., campus.

The Diamond Warriors will be guests of rival East Mississippi Community College Saturday, March 2. A nine-inning opener will be followed by a seven-inning battle on the Scooba campus.

East Central's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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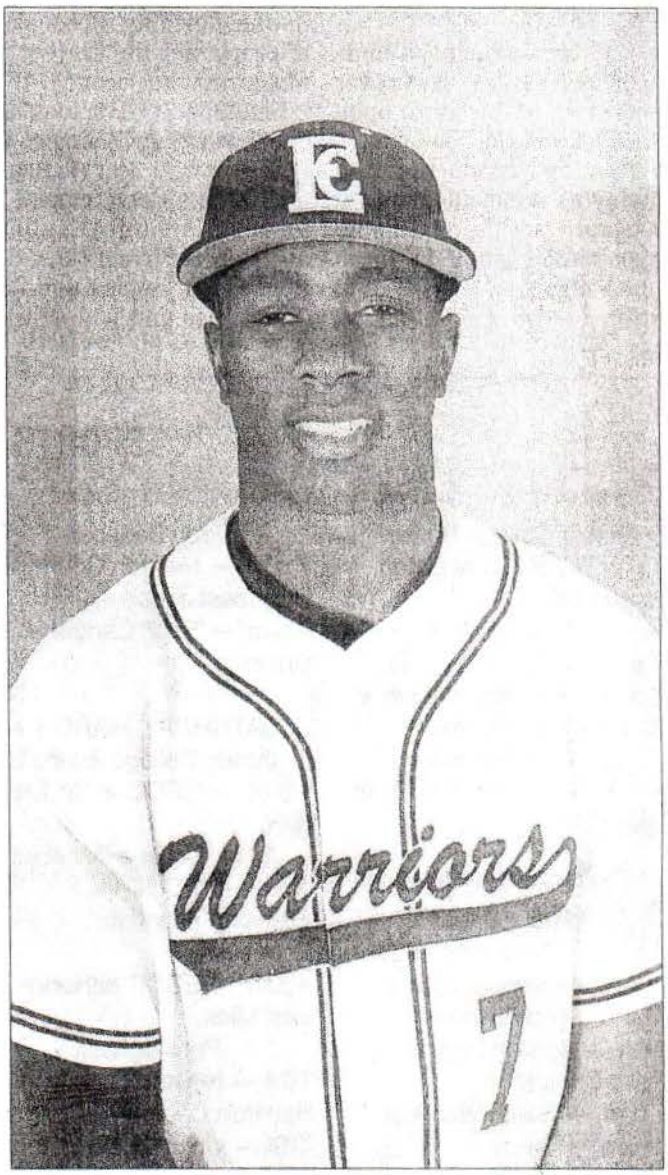
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 24, 2013

Anderson among top prospects



East Central Community College baseball standout Tim Anderson is included in the list of top 20 prospects in NJCAA competition, according to February/March issue of "Baseball America."

Anderson, a 6-1 sophomore shortstop, began the 2013 campaign by belting three home runs, two triples, a double and a single in helping lead the Diamond Warriors to a doubleheader sweep (3-0, 8-3) of Southwest (TN) Community College on Feb. 9.

He currently (as of Feb. 25) leads the nation in home runs (five) and is third in batting average (.639). He has also belted three triples and five doubles and is credited with 12 RBIs. Anderson is also rated the top JUCO shortstop.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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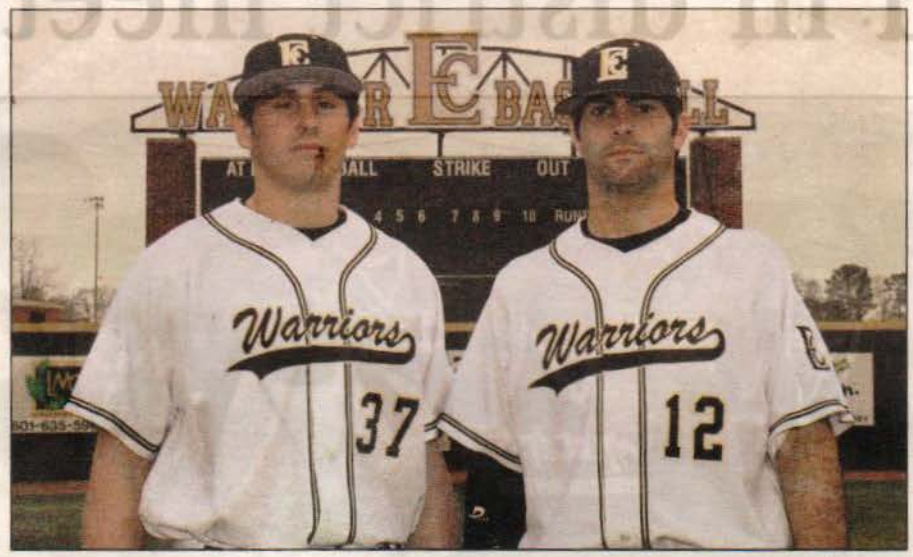
COUNTY JOURNAL _____
LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 3, 2013

Winston County ECCC warriors



Winston County 'Diamond Warriors'

Winston County members of the 2013 East Central Community College Diamond Warrior baseball team include (from left) Hunter Swart (37), a product of Nanih Waiya High School, and Ryan Shotts (12) of Louisville. Swart, a freshman right-handed pitcher, is a transfer from Talladega College. Shotts is a sophomore first baseman/third baseman/outfielder. The Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson. ECCC is located in Decatur. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 17, 2013

Warriors split division doubleheaders

From school reports

East Central Community College's baseball squad began MACJC South Division competition by splitting doubleheaders with visiting Pearl River Community College on March 12 and home standing Jones County Junior College on March 16.

The Diamond Warriors fell 10-0 in the opener with Pearl River but rallied for a 10-1 decision in the nightcap.

EC managed just one hit in the first contest — a single by Chase Domino, a product of Fairhope (Ala.) High School.

Southpaw Caleb McKee took the loss, as the Neshoba Central High School product allowed five earned runs on six hits through four innings. He also fanned six batters and walked four.

Right-hander Jordan Mixon of Maben hurled the final two innings and allowed two earned runs on three hits. He also fanned two batters. Mixon is a product of East Webster High School.

In the second contest, EC's offense came alive with six runs in the first three innings and cruised to the easy victory.

A two-run single by Domino and a three-run homer by Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County during first-inning action helped set the tone for the scoring onslaught.

Domino and Ryan Shotts of Louisville had three hits each to lead EC sluggers.

Domino collected three singles and two RBIs while Shotts belted two doubles and a single and was also credited with two RBIs.

Other hitters were Tim Anderson of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa and Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise, double and single each; Xzavier Franklin of Newton County, double; Jake Bush of Brookwood (Ala.) High School, RBI double; and Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central and Deion Ulmer of Laurel, singles each.

Runs were scored by Shotts (2), Anderson (2), Harmon (2), Bush, Domino, Steele and May.

Right-hander Blake Dubuisson picked up the win, allowing one earned run on seven hits in the seven-inning contest. He also fanned four batters and walked one. Dubuisson is a product of Long Beach High School.

In the first game with Jones County, EC was edged 3-2 but responded with a 9-0 shutout to earn a split.

Rubert Alcantara led EC's offense with a double and single. The Dominican Republic native also scored two runs.

Domino also contributed a double and knocked in a run.

Other hitters were May, Anderson, Mixon and Steele, singles each.

Right-hander Severino Signa of Stoneville took the loss, allowing two earned runs on five hits. He also fanned three batters and walked two. Signa is a product of Deer Creek High School.

EC's offense got untracked in the nightcap as seven runs crossed the plate in the first three innings.

Anderson led Diamond Warrior sluggers with three singles and two RBIs.

Domino and Franklin contributed two singles each. Domino also knocked in a run.

Other hitters were Shotts, double; Alcantara, single and two RBIs; Kalik May and Ulmer, singles each.

Bush was credited with two RBIs.

Runs were scored by Anderson (2), Franklin (2), Shotts, Kalik May, Harmon, Steele and Zach May.

Right-hander Fernando Gonzalez picked up the win. The Puerto Rico native allowed just one hit during five innings of work. He fanned a batter and walked one.

Mitchell Wooten, a right-hander from Edinburg, hurled two scoreless innings to earn the save.

Prior to beginning league action, the Diamond Warriors were blanked 10-0 by Northeast Mississippi Community College Saturday, March 9 on the Booneville campus.

EC managed two hits – a double by Domino and a single by Kalik May.

Starter Mason Woodrow took the loss. The right-hander allowed three earned runs on five hits through three innings. He also fanned two batters. Woodrow is a product of Taylorsville High School.

The Diamond Warriors, now 9-12 overall and 2-2 in league play, host Southwest Mississippi Community College Wednesday, March 20. Doubleheader action begins at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

EC travels to Itawamba Community College Saturday, March 23. The twin bill starts at 2 p.m. on the Fulton campus.

East Central Community College head baseball coach Neal Holliman provides instruction in hitting to participants of the annual Hitting and Pitching Indoors for Youth held recently on the Decatur campus. The hitting clinic was held on four consecutive Thursdays at the Indoor Practice Facility located in Founders' Gym. Approximately 70 youngsters participated in both clinics, which were conducted by Coach Holliman, assistant coaches Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson, and Diamond Warrior team members.

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 31, 2013

ECCC's Anderson Receives National Honor

East Central Community College sophomore shortstop Tim Anderson has been selected NJCAA Division II Player of the Week for his performance in matchups with Copiah-Lincoln Community College March 26 and MS Gulf Coast Community College on March 29.

The Diamond Warriors went 3-1 in the four games and were led by Anderson who had great success at bat and on the base paths.

During his 15 trips to the plate in the two doubleheaders, Anderson posted a .533 (8-for-15) average, which included two triples, two doubles and five RBIs. He also scored six runs and was credited with four stolen bases.

Anderson's two-run triple in the bottom of the ninth provided EC with a 5-3 victory in the nightcap of the MACJC South Division doubleheader held at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur.

Prior to the national recognition, Anderson was recognized as MACJC Player of the Week for March 25-31, 2013.

He currently leads the Diamond Warriors with a .495 batting average, 20 RBIs and 25 stolen bases.

Anderson is a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

He received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors following his freshman campaign.

Anderson has signed a national letter of intent to continue his career at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

The Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

EK OF April 7, 2013

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LEDGER

Diamond Warriors split decisions at Pearl River

From school reports

After claiming a 6-2 win in the opener with Pearl River Community College, East Central Community College's baseball team was unable to complete a doubleheader sweep of the Wildcats and fell 12-11 in the MACJC South Division matchup held Saturday, April 6 on the Poplarville campus.

However, the Diamond Warriors remain tied for the division lead with Jones County Junior College as both squads sport 10-4 records going into their battle Tuesday on the Decatur campus.

The first of two seven-inning contests were scheduled to get under way at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball complex. EC is 18-15 overall and the Bobcats are 22-10. The Diamond Warriors dropped a twin bill to Bobcats by scores of 3-2 and 9-0 earlier in the season in Ellisville.

In the first contest with Pearl River, Ryan Shotts of Louisville and Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin collected two hits and two RBIs each to lead the EC offense. Shots belted a double and single and Franklin contributed two singles. Each also scored a run.

It was Shotts' two-run double in a six-run, seventh-inning that rallied EC from a 1-0 deficit.

Other hitters were Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central and John Morgan Berry of Madison Central, singles each.

Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County, Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School, Zach May of Newton County and John Bruening of Ridgeland scored the other runs.

Starter Fernando Gonzalez picked up the win, allowing one earned run on four hits through 6 1/3 innings. The Puerto Rico native and right-hander also fanned three batters and walked two.

Right-hander Deion Ulmer hurled the final 2/3 innings and allowed no hits. Ulmer is a product of Laurel High School.

In the second contest, EC overcame an early 7-0 deficit and grabbed a 10-7 advantage in the top of the sixth only to have the Wildcats respond with five runs in the bottom of the frame. The Diamond Warriors could muster just one run in the top of the seventh and Pearl River (26-10, 9-5) held on for the victory.

Franklin belted a grand slam in the sixth inning, and singled in the fourth and fifth frames to lead the EC offense.

Berry also had a productive outing at the plate, as he blasted a two-run shot.

Other sluggers were Anderson, two singles and RBI; Kalik May and Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School, double and RBI e and Steele and Maxwell Harmo Enterprise, singles each.

Runs were scored by Ander (2), Franklin (2), Shotts, Kalik M Dominican Republic native Ru Alcantara, Berry, Harmon, St and Zach May.

Starter Blake Dubuisson was of six hurlers on the mound fo in the nightcap. The right-ha went 1 1/3 innings and allowed earned runs on five hits. He walked a batter. Dubuisson product of Long Beach High Sc

The Diamond Warriors are l head coach Neal Holliman an sistants Justin Brewer and Jac monson.

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CARTHAGINIAN
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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

EC's Anderson receives Player of Week honors

From school reports

East Central Community College sophomore shortstop Tim Anderson has been selected NJCAA Division II Player of the Week for his performance in matchups with Copiah-Lincoln Community College March 26 and MS Gulf Coast Community College on March 29.

The Diamond Warriors went 3-1 in the four games and were led by Anderson who had great success at bat and on the base paths.

During his 15 trips to the plate in the two doubleheaders, Anderson posted a .533 (8-for-15) average, which included two triples, two doubles and five RBIs. He also scored six runs and was credited with four stolen bases.

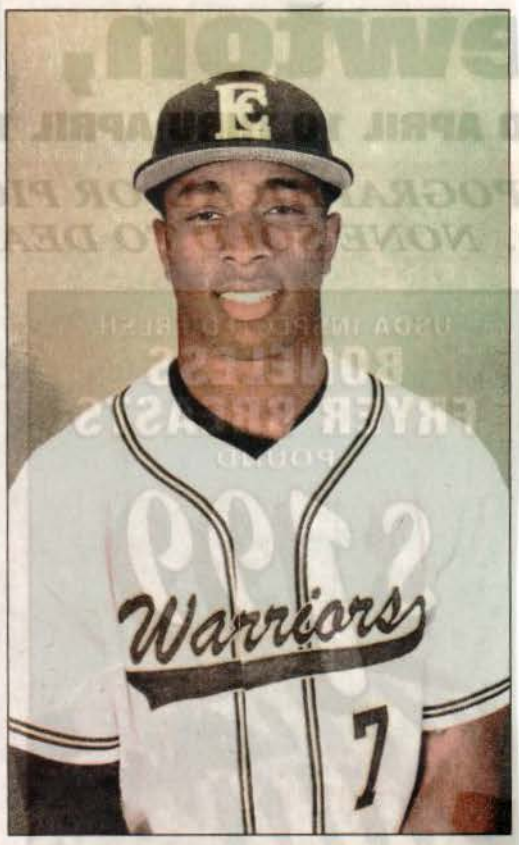
Anderson's two-run triple in the bottom of the ninth provided EC with a 5-3 victory in the nightcap of the MACJC South Division doubleheader held at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur.

Prior to the national recognition, Anderson was recognized as MACJC Player of the Week for March 25-31, 2013.

He currently leads the Diamond Warriors with a .495 batting average, 20 RBIs and 25 stolen bases.

Anderson is a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

He received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors following his freshman campaign.



Anderson has signed a national letter of intent to continue his career at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Diamond Warriors sweep Co-Lin in division battle

From school reports

East Central Community College's baseball squad posted a pair of victories over Copiah-Lincoln Community College in a key MACJC South Division matchup held Saturday, April 20 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus.

The Diamond Warriors won the opener by a 6-1 margin and cruised 12-2 in the nightcap to improve to 23-18 overall and 14-6 in league play.

EC is second in league play behind Pearl River whose division mark stands at 15-5. The Wildcats are 32-10 overall. Jones County is third (15-7) followed by Gulf Coast (9-11), Hinds (6-14) and Co-Lin (5-17). The top four teams qualify for post-season competition, which gets under way May 3-4.

In the Diamond Warriors' first win over Co-Lin, Tim Anderson belted a solo home run, John Morgan Berry and Ryan Shotts slapped RBI doubles each, and Terrance Steele doubled to lead the offense.

Anderson is a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa. Berry, who hails from Madison Central High School, also contributed a single. Shotts and Steele are products of Louisville and Neshoba Central high schools, respectively.

Also producing runs were Dominican Republic native Rubert Alcantara, Caleb Woods of Leake Central and Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County, each with an RBI single. Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin also singled.

Runs were scored by Berry (2), Shotts, Kalik May, Anderson, Steele, Zach May and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy.

Starter Fernando Gonzalez picked up the win. The right-hander from Puerto Rico allowed one earned run on four hits through 5 1/3 innings. He also fanned five batters and walked three. Right-hander Deion Ulmer was credited with the save. He hurled 1 2/3 scoreless innings and fanned a batter. Ulmer is a product of Laurel High School.

In the five-inning second contest, Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School was the top run producer with his three-run blast.

Several players recorded multiple hits, including Anderson, triple and single; and Kalik May and Shotts, two singles each. All three also knocked in a run each.

Other hitters were Alcantara, RBI double; and Franklin, Berry and Caleb McKee of Neshoba Central, singles each.

Runs were scored by Shotts (2), Kalik May (2), Anderson (2), Domino, Alcantara, Steele, Franklin, Ulmer and Zach May.

Starter Blake Dubuisson got th win, as the right-hander from Lon Beach allowed two earned runs o three hits through four innings. H fanned a batter and walked tw Right-hander Ty Hendrix hurled th final inning in relief. He fanned batter and walked one. Hendrix is product of East Webster Hig School.

The Diamond Warriors complet regular season action by hosting d vision foe Hinds Community Colleg beginning at 2 p.m. Saturday, Apr 27, at the Clark/Gay Baseball Com plex. Sophomore players will be hon ored prior to the twin bill.

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WEEK OF April 28, 2013

ECCC baseball takes on Delta tonight at home

From school reports

Due to the recent inclement weather, the best-of-three series featuring East Central and Mississippi Delta community college baseball squads has been rescheduled for Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5, at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus.

Saturday's contest is set for 7 p.m. and the game Sunday gets under way at 3 p.m. A game three, if necessary, will be played Sunday night.

Admission is $7 per day for adults and $3 for children 12 and under. Two-day passes are available at $10 for adults and $5 for children.

The best-of-three series was previously scheduled for May 3-4.

East Central, which finished the regular season at 26-19 overall and 17- 7 in league play under head coach Neal Holliman, qualified to serve as a host site after finishing second in the MACJC South Division.

Mississippi Delta is the North # 3 seed after posting a 14-10 division mark. The Trojans finished the regular season at 26-19 overall. Former Diamond Warrior assistant Michael Avalon serves as head coach.

The series champion advances to the MACJC State Baseball Tournament scheduled May 9-11. The highest South Division seed remaining following the playoff series will serve as tournament host.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 28, 2013

Diamond Warriors sweep Hinds; host playoff series

From school reports

East Central Community College's baseball squad needed just one win over Hinds Community College Friday to clinch second place in the MACJC South Division and qualify as a designated host for a best-of-three series to begin post-season play.

The Diamond Warriors took care of business early by holding on for a 9-7 win in the opener and continued their success in the nightcap with a 7-4 decision to complete a memorable Sophomore Recognition Day.

EC, which finished the regular season at 26-19 overall and 17-7 in league play, will host North No. 3 seed Mississippi Delta Community College in a best-of-three series scheduled Friday-Saturday, May 3-4, at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. Game times are 4 p.m. Friday and 1 p.m. Saturday. A game three, if necessary, will be held later Saturday afternoon.

The Trojans, 24-18 overall and 14-10 in league play, are led by former Diamond Warrior assistant Michael Avalon.

The series champion advances to the MACJC State Baseball Tournament scheduled May 9-11. The highest South Division seed remaining following the best-of-three series will serve as tournament host.

In the opener with Hinds, Chase Domino's three-run double in the sixth inning provided EC with the winning margin. Domino is a product of Fairhope (Ala.) High School.

Tim Anderson, Maxwell Harmon and Ryan Shotts also had success at the plate. Anderson belted two doubles, drove in a run and scored; Harmon contributed two singles and scored twice; and Shotts slapped a two-run single and scored twice. Anderson hails from Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa; Harmon is a product of Enterprise High School; and Shotts is a former standout at Louisville High School.

Also scoring runs were Kalik May (2) of Tuscaloosa County, John Morgan Berry of Madison Central and Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central.

Starter Fernando Gonzalez picked up the win. The right-hander from Puerto Rico went 6 1/3 innings and allowed seven earned runs on seven hits. He fanned five batters and walked two.

Right-hander Jordan Mixon hurled 2/3 innings in relief and allowed one hit. Mixon is a product of East Webster High School.

In the second contest, Dominican Republic native Rubert Alcantara gave EC the lead for good at 4-3 with his RBI double in the sixth inning.

Anderson blasted a solo homer and Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin also produced a run with his RBI double.

Other hitters were Domino, two singles; and Berry and Harmon, singles each.

In addition to Anderson, others scoring runs were Shotts, Kalik May, Alcantara, Franklin, Deion Ulmer of Laurel and Zach May of Newton County.

Right-hander Mitchell Wooten picked up the win in relief. Wooten hurled a scoreless 1 2/3 innings and fanned three batters. He also gave up two walks. Wooten is a product of Edinburg High School. Starter Blake Dubuisson went 3 1/3 innings and allowed two earned runs on six hits. He fanned five batters and walked one. Dubuisson is a product of Long Beach High School. Southpaw Brady McBride of Northeast Jones and right-hander Ty Hendrix of East Webster each hurled an inning in relief. McBride pitched a scoreless inning and fanned two batters. Hendrix allowed one run on one hit. He fanned a batter and walked one.

Hinds finished the season at 18-25 and 8-16.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 5, 2013

Paula Merritt/ The Meridian Sta

East Central Community College's Tim Anderson tags out Southwest Tennessee Community College's Nathan Van Nortwick.

ECCC Baseball to face Northeast in MACJC Tourney

From school reports

After capturing a best-of-three series with Mississippi Delta Community College earlier in the week, East Central Community College's baseball squad has now set its sights on the 2013 MACJC State Tournament, scheduled May 9-11 at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville.

The Diamond Warriors (28-19) begin first-round action of the double-elimination event by taking on Northeast Mississippi Community College at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 9.

The other first-round matchup features a 7 p.m. battle between Northwest Mississippi and Pearl River.

Game times for Friday's action are set for noon, 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The championship battle is set for 2 p.m. Saturday, May 11. If a game seven is required, the matchup will follow at 5 p.m.

All games are nine-inning contests.

East Central's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 8, 2013

Diamond Warriors Rally to win playoff Series with Delta

From school reports

DECATUR — East Central Community College rallied for a 7-3 victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Monday afternoon to capture the best-of-three series and a berth in this week's MACJC State Baseball Tournament.

The Diamond Warriors, who trailed 3-0 after six innings, exploded for seven runs in the seventh inning thanks to timely hitting and several Delta errors.

ECCC tied the contest when East Webster High School product Jordan Mixon slapped an RBI single, and took the lead for good at 4-3 when Zach May of Newton County High School was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded. Three runs came across the plate following bases-loaded walks during the inning. Two other runs were attributed to errors. Tim Anderson contributed an RBI single during the inning and later scored.

Other hitters were John Morgan Berry of Madison Central and Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise, singles each. Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County was credited with an RBI.

Right-hander Blake Dubuisson picked up the win in relief. Dubuisson fanned a batter and walked one while hurling three scoreless innings.Starter Severino Signa went five innings allowed three earned runs on five hits. He fanned two batters and walked one.

The Diamond Warriors, who improved to 28-19 under head coach Neal Holliman, claimed a 5-2 decision in the series opener Sunday night.

The MACJC State Baseball Tournament is scheduled May 9-11 at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville.

MARKED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 8 2013

McKee pitches

John Morgan Berry's two-run double in the eighth inning and a superb pitching performance from southpaw Caleb McKee helped provide home standing East Central Community College with a 5-2 victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Sunday in the first game of a best-of-three series leading to the MACJC State Baseball Tournament.

Berry's blast scored Rubert Alcantara and Xavier Franklin and gave the Diamond Warriors the lead for a good and a 1-0 advantage going into the second contest with the Trojans at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus. A game three – if necessary – will be played tonight.

Other hitters were Franklin – a former standout at Newton County High School – Ryan Shotts of Louisville and Deion Ulmer of Laurel, RBI singles each; and Dominican Republic native Alcantara and Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School, singles each.

McKee fanned 10 batters and allowed one earned run on four hits during eight innings of work. He walked two batters. The sophomore hurler is a product of Neshoba Central High School.

Jordan Mixon hurled a scoreless ninth inning to earn the save. Mixon fanned two batters and allowed one hit. He also walked a batter. Mixon is a product of East

ECCC past Delta

Webster High School.

EC Diamond Warriors Rally to Win Playoff Series with Delta

Game 2

ECCC 7

Mississippi Delta 3

East Central Community College rallied for a 7-3 victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Monday afternoon to capture the best-of-three series and a berth in this week's MACJC State Baseball Tournament.

The Diamond Warriors, who trailed 3-0 after six innings, exploded for seven runs in the seventh inning thanks to timely hitting and several Delta errors.

EC tied the contest when East Webster High School product Jordan Mixon slapped an RBI single, and took the lead for good at 4-3 when Zach May of Newton County High School was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded. Three runs came across the plate following bases-loaded walks during the inning. Two other runs were attributed to errors.

Tim Anderson contributed an RBI single during the inning and later scored. Anderson is a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa.

Other hitters were John Morgan Berry of Madison Central and Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise, singles each. Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County was credited with an RBI.

Right-hander Blake Dubuisson picked up the win in relief. Dubuisson fanned a batter and walked one while hurling three scoreless innings. Dubuisson is a product of Long Beach High School. Starter Severino Signa went five innings allowed three earned runs on five hits. He fanned two batters and walked one. Signa is a former standout at Deer Creek High School. Fernando Gonzalez pitched the final inning. He allowed one hit and fanned a batter. Gonzalez is a Puerto Rico native.

The Diamond Warriors, who improved to 28-19 under head coach Neal Holliman, claimed a 5-2 decision in the series opener Sunday night.

Delta finishes at 26-21 under head coach Michael Avalon, a former Diamond Warrior assistant.

The MACJC State Baseball Tournament is scheduled May 9-11 at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

WEEK OF May 12, 2013

DIAMOND WARRIORS CLAIM VICTORY

Photos by Mitch Deaver

AP

CA

NE

SP East Central's Kalik May (R) accepts the state championship plaque from MACJC executive director Jim Southward following the Warriors' 4-0 victory over Northwest Mississippi in the 2013 title bout played Sunday at Pearl River CC in Poplarville.

MERIDIAN STAR _____ CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 13, 2013

East Central CC wins state title

POPLARVILLE — East Central's **Severino Signa** scattered a hit over nine innings, helping East Central beat Northwest Mississippi 4-0 for the MACJC state championship on Sunday at Pearl River. Both teams advance to next weekend's Region 23 tourney, which is also at Pearl River. **Chase Domino** gave Signa all the run support he'd need with a solo home run. **Tim Anderson** added three singles and a pair of RBIs for East Central (31-19). **Cody Waddell** took the loss for Northwest (31-16).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER ✓

WEEK OF May 13, 2013

Signa's one-hitter propels East Central to MACJC title

Right hander Severino Signa hurled a one-hit, 4-0 shutout to lead East Central Community College to the 2013 state championship over Northwest Mississippi in the MACJC State Tournament title bout here Sunday in Wildcat Stadium on the Pearl River CC campus.

ECCC, 30-19, will now enter the Region 23 Tournament next Thursday through Saturday as the No. 1 seed. That event will also be played at PRCC.

Signa, a sophomore from Stoneville, struck out five Warrior batters and didn't give up a hit — a one-out single by Walt McCullough — until the top of the eighth inning to NWCC's.

The victorious Warriors went up 2-0 in the bottom of the third before adding solo runs in the sixth and seventh innings.

Chase Domino paced East Central's seven-hit effort with a solo homer and two singles (two RBIs), while Tim Anderson had three base hits (two RBIs) and Xzavier Franklin doubled and singled.

East Central opened the tournament on Thursday with a 19-1 (six innings) demolition of Northeast Mississippi, which was eliminated Saturday via Northwest's 3-0 victory. Pearl River downed Northwest 7-3 in opening-round action and fell to ECCC 7-6 in 10 innings before NWCC followed with a 16-4 (six innings) revenge blow out to eliminate the eighth-ranked Wildcats and wrap Saturday's action.

East Central and Northwest are the top two seeds in this week's regionals, followed by No. 3 and top-ranked LSU-Eunice (La.) and No. 4 Pearl River. The Region 23 champion advances to the NJCAA Division II World Series set for May 26 through June 1 in Enid, Okla.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

hathesburgamerican.com

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

2013

EC Diamond Warriors bla
4-0 to capture MACJC Sta

A one-hit shutout by right-hander Severino Signa and clutch hitting by Tim Anderson and Chase Domino helped lead East Central Community College to a 4-0 victory over Northwest Mississippi Community College and the 2013 MACJC State Championship Sunday, May 12 at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville.

The Diamond Warriors, who improved to 31-16 following their perfect record in the state tourney, are the top seed in the 2013 Region 23 Tournament scheduled May 16-19, also on the Poplarville campus. EC battles Pearl River at 7 p.m. followed by the Northwest/LSU-Eunice matchup at 4 p.m. in first-round action of the double-elimination event.

The Mother's Day victory represents the second state title for head coach Neal Holliman, who led the Diamond Warriors to the 2007 championship in his first year at the helm. When asked which state title is "sweeter," Holliman replied, "the next one!"

Holliman was obviously pleased with his team's effort Sunday, which followed a 7- 10-inning victory over host Pe River Saturday night and a 19 thumping of Northeast in fi round competition Thursd May 9. The double-eliminat event was hampered by the c cellation of Friday's match due to inclement weather.

Signa, a sophomore right-h der from Stoneville and pro of Deer Creek High School, in complete command of Northwest offense, which ge ated 16 runs the night before 16-4 blowout of Pearl River elimination game.

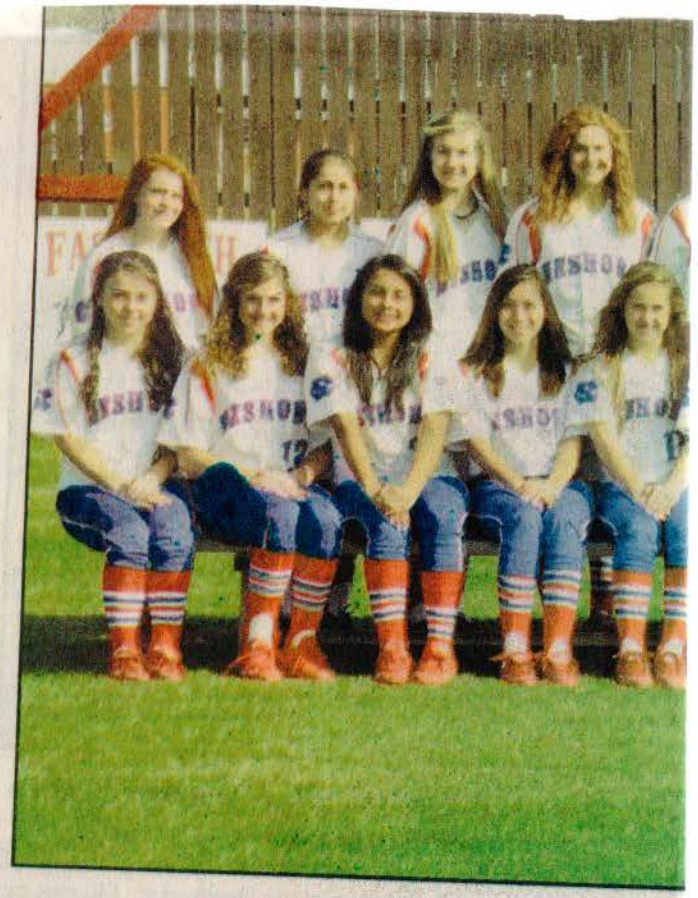
Signa got all the run su he needed in the third innin lowing RBI singles Anderson and Domino, sc Ryan Shotts of Louisville Kalik May of Tuscaloosa C

Domino, a produc Fairhope (Ala.) High S extended EC's lead to 3-4 his solo homer in the sixth i

EC 7, Pearl River 6

A wild throw to the pla Pearl River pitcher Ryan I scored pinch runner and I County High School p Zach May from third base in the

See ROCKETS, page

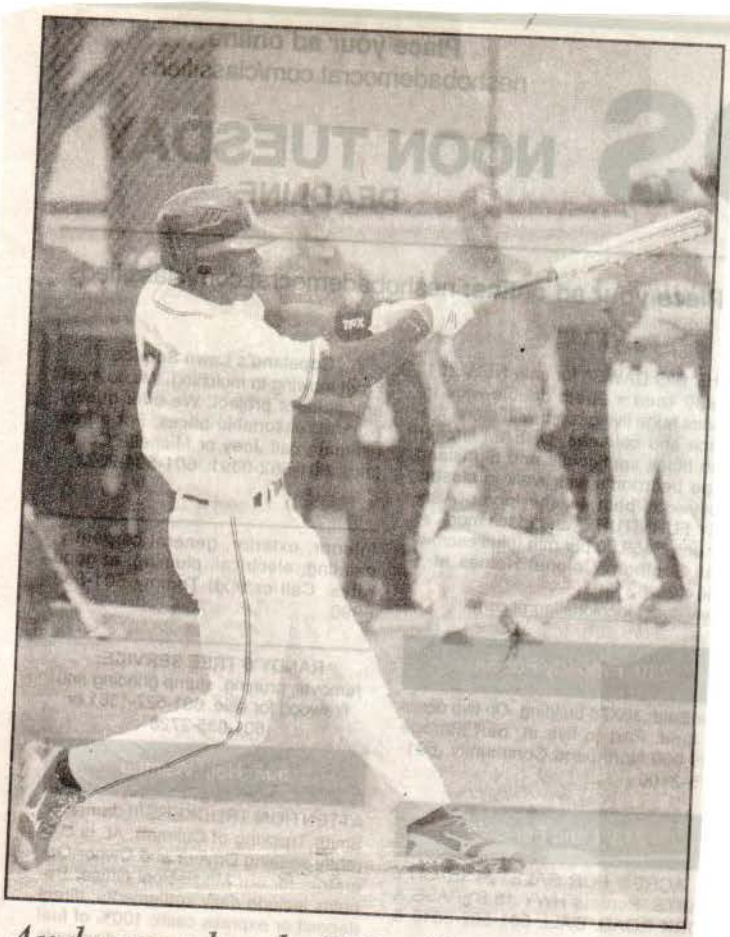


Front row, from left, are August Gurry, Meg Martin, Meshay
Claire Winstead, Mary Kate Collins, Madalyn Thompson, Ha
Eve Henderson, Mallory Tucker, Hailey Lunderman, Kayla

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____
MERIDIAN STAR ____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____
CLARION-LEDGER ____

WEEK OF May 15, 2013



Anderson leads EC offense

Tim Anderson slapped three singles and collected two RBIs in helping lead East Central Community College to a 4-0 win over Northwest Mississippi Community College Sunday,

608 Announcement

WILDFIRE VFW HWY 16 EAST PHIL-ADELPHIA. DANCE 7:30 FANTAST-IC BAND. SMOKE FREE 601-427-3404 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

would like to express sincere gratitude for each and every act of kindness shown to us during his passing. You will never know how much we appreciate your compassion and concern. Again, thank you all so very much and know that it is our prayer that the Lord will continue to rich bless and keep all of you.

ExEarl Nash

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736, 601-575-8245.

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

STATE CHAMPS!

Warriors claim MACJC championship title; advance to Region tourney

East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors celebrate winning the 2013 MACJC State Championship following a 4-0 victory over Northwest Mississippi Community College Sunday at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville, which served as host for this year's competition.

EC photo

From school reports

A one-hit shutout by right-hander Severino Signa and clutch hitting by Tim Anderson and Chase Domino helped lead East Central Community College to a 4-0 victory over Northwest Mississippi Community College and the 2013 MACJC State Championship Sunday, May 12 at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville, host for this year's competition.

The Diamond Warriors, who improved to 31-16 following their perfect record in the state tourney, are the top seed in the 2013 Region 23 Tournament scheduled May 16-19, also on the Poplarville

7 p.m. followed by the Northwest/LSU-Eunice matchup at 4 p.m. in first-round action of the double-elimination event.

The Mother's Day victory represents the second state title for head coach Neal Holliman, who led the Diamond Warriors to the 2007 championship in his first year at the helm. When asked which state title is "sweeter," Holliman replied, "the next one."

Holliman was obviously pleased with his team's effort Sunday, which followed a 7-6, 10-inning victory over host Pearl River Saturday night and a 19-1 thumping of Northeast in first-round competition Thursday, May 9. The double-elimination event was

hampered by the cancellation of Friday's matchups due to inclement weather. Finals were originally scheduled for Saturday, May 11.

"Just a phenomenal effort," said Holliman of his team's performance in capturing the state title. "We talked about defense early in the year and what it could do for us. We had an outstanding pitching performance from Sevy Signa....we could not have asked for more. And for us to play defense like we played behind him is just another phenomenal effort. I'm very proud of them."

Signa, a sophomore right-hander from Stoneville and product of Deer Creek High School, was in

complete command of the Northwest offense, which generated 16 runs the night before in a 16-4 blowout of Pearl River in an elimination game.

"It was amazing," said Signa, whose bid for a no-hitter was nixed in the eighth inning with a one-out single by Walt McCullough. "It was probably the best pitching performance I have ever had."

Signa, who fanned five Ranger batters in the nine-inning contest, gave credit for his success to an effective fast ball and advice from pitching coach Justin Brewer.

"The pitching mound is higher

WEEK OF May 16, 2013

Thursday, May

EC battles PRC to begin Region 23 Tournament

From school reports

The MACJC State Champion East Central Community College Diamond Warriors begin their quest for a regional title by taking on host Pearl River Community College at 7 p.m. tonight in first-round action of the Region 23 Tournament scheduled on PRC's Poplarville campus.

The top-seeded EC squad brings a 31-19 record to the double-elimination event, while No. 4 Pearl River is 39-12.

In the other first-round matchup, No. 2 LSU-Eunice (45-8) battles No. 3 Northwest (31-16) at 3:30 p.m. Thursday.

Game times are also set for 3:30 and 7 p.m. Friday, May 17.*

The championship contest is scheduled at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 18. (Should a game seven be necessary to determine the champion, the contest will be played at 2 p. m. Sunday, May 19).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 22, 2013

EC closes out season in regionals

After rallying for three runs in the bottom of the eighth inning for a 3-3 tie, the state champion East Central Community College Diamond Warriors were unable to repeat the performance in the final frame and Pearl River Community College escaped with a 5-3 victory Saturday afternoon in the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament.

East Central finished 32-21 following the double-elimination event. The Diamond Warriors fell 12-1 to PRC in the opening round Thursday and rallied for a 7-6 win over Northwest Mississippi Community College Friday.

Pearl River advanced to the championship round with LSU-Eunice Saturday night but the Wildcats were blanked 5-0 by the Tigers who won the title without a loss in the three-day tournament. The Wildcats (41-14) would have needed two wins over LSU-Eunice to claim the championship.

LSU-Eunice (47-8) advances to the 2013 NJCAA Division II World Series scheduled May 25-June 1 in Enid, OK.

In EC's finale with Pearl River, the Wildcats grabbed a 2-0 lead in the top of the fourth following a RBI single by Nathan Pugh and a fielding error by the Warrior defense.

The Wildcats added a run in the seventh inning following another infield miscue.

EC got on the scoreboard in the eighth inning following Dominican Republic native Rubert Alcantara's sacrifice fly that scored Ryan Shotts of Louisville, who earlier singled. Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County and Deion Ulmer of Laurel later scored following infield miscues. May got on base after being hit by a pitch and Ulmer reached base on a fielder's choice.

The Wildcats took the lead for good on Paul Pickerrell's two-run double in the ninth.

EC managed just four hits of Wildcat right-hander Jake Brumfield – singles by Shotts, Ulmer, Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School and Terrence Steele of Neshoba Central.

Slugger Tim Anderson left the game in the third inning after being hit by a pitch and did not return to the lineup. He was taken to a local hospital for observation and was cleared to play had East Central advanced to the championship round. The major league prospect is a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Mitchell Wooten took the loss in relief. The right-hander from Edinburg went 2/3 innings and allowed one earned run on one hit. He also fanned a batter.

Starter Severino Signa went 6 1/3 innings and allowed one earned run on four hits. The right-hander fanned three batters and walked five. He is a product of Deer Creek High School.

Southpaw Brady McBride and right-hander Jordan Mixon also appeared on the mound. McBride allowed two hits and walked one during one wining of work. He is a product of Northeast Jones High School. Mixon pitched the final inning and allowed two hits.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

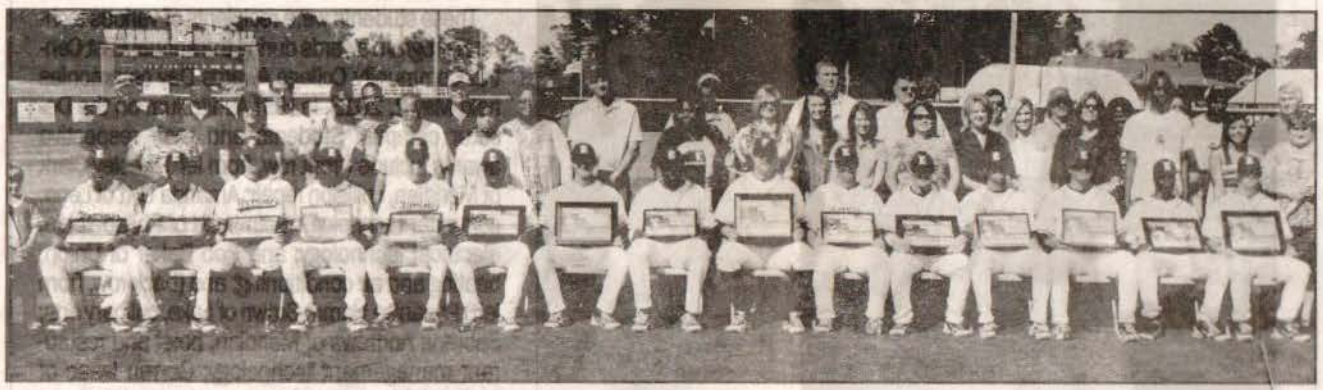
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC falls 5-3 to PRC to conclude region 23 competition

Shotts Has Banner Day for EC

Ryan Shotts belted a double and two singles and was the top run producer with four RBIs in East Central Community College's 10-6 victory over Northwest Mississippi Community College late Friday afternoon in quarter-final action of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament. Shotts' two-run single in the eighth inning cut the Northwest advantage to 6-5. Shotts is a product of Louisville High School. EC battles host Pearl River at 3:30 p.m. Saturday on the Poplarville campus in another elimination contest. (EC Photo)



EC Sophomore Diamond Warriors Honored

Sophomores on the 2013 East Central Community College baseball team received special recognition prior to the doubleheader sweep of Hinds Community College in the regular season finale held Friday, April 26 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus. Each sophomore was introduced at home plate and joined by family members for the special presentation. Honorees were also presented a framed copy of several photos. Sophomores include (seated from left) Rubert Alcantara, Dominican Republic; Tim Anderson, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Blake Dubuisson, Long Beach; Xavier Franklin, Decatur; Fernando Gonzalez, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico; Robert Greer, Philadelphia; Kyle Henson, Weir; Kalik May, Northport, Ala.; Brady McBride, Laurel; Caleb McKee, Philadelphia; Jordan Mixon, Maben; Ryan Shotts, Louisville; Severino Signa, Stoneville; Terrance Steele, Philadelphia; and Mitchell Wooten, Carthage. Standing next to the Alcantara is Levi Holliman, son of Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman. The Diamond Warriors went 26-19 overall and finished second in the MACJC South Division with a 17-7 record. EC will serve as host for a best-of-three series with Mississippi Delta Community College (24-18, 14-10) scheduled May 3-4 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. Winners of the playoff series advance to the MACJC State Baseball Tournament set May 9-11. (EC Photo)

After rallying for three runs in the bottom of the eighth inning for a 3-3 tie, the state champion East Central Community College Diamond Warriors were unable to repeat the performance in the final frame and Pearl River Community College escaped with a 5-3 victory Saturday afternoon in the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament held on the Poplarville campus.

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Starter Severino Signa went 6 1/3 innings and allowed one earned run on four hits. The right-hander fanned three batters and walked five. He is a product of Deer Creek High School.

Southpaw Brady McBride and right-hander Jordan Mixon also appeared on the mound. McBride allowed two hits and walked one during one wining of work. He is a product of Northeast Jones High School. Mixon pitched the final inning and allowed two hits. The East Webster High School product fanned a batter and walked one.

WEEK OF May 27 2013

MLB Press Release

5/28/2013 4:45 P.M. ET

Eight amateur players to attend 2013 MLB Draft

Eight amateur players are scheduled to attend Major League Baseball's 2013 Draft, which will be held on Thursday, June 6th at MLB Network's Studio 42 in Secaucus, New Jersey, it was announced today.

The eight scheduled attendees are East Central Community College infielder **Tim Anderson**; high school catcher **Nick Ciuffo**; high school infielder **J.P Crawford**; high school catcher **Jon Denney**; high school outfielder **Clint Frazier**; Fresno State outfielder **Aaron Judge**; high school outfielder **Billy McKinney**; and high school first baseman **Dominic Smith**. Smith and Crawford are products of the MLB Urban Youth Academy in Compton, California.

TIM ANDERSON, SS

East Central (MS) Community College

HT: *6-1*

WT: *180*

B/T: *R/R*

Born: *6/23/93*

Hometown: *Tuscaloosa, AL*

College Choice: *University of Alabama-Birmingham*

As a freshman in 2012, Tim received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors after hitting .360 with seven doubles, one triple, four home runs, 37 RBI, 30 stolen bases and 42 runs scored. He began the 2013 season with a team-best .495 batting average, 20 RBI and 25 stolen bases.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 29, 2013

Former Rocket McKee named MACJC all-state

East Central Community College pitcher Caleb McKee was named first team MACJC All-State.

Caleb McKee

The southpaw from Neshoba Central went 8-2 on the mound and led hurlers with a 3.13 earned run average. McKee also led in strikeouts with 83. McKee also received the Diamond Warriors' Scholar Athlete award and was a co-recipient of the Jamie Clark Memorial Award.

Major League Baseball prospect Tim Anderson received numerous honors following the squad's state championship season.

Anderson received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors for the second straight year and is among top nominees for 2013 NJCAA Division II Baseball Player of the Year and NJCAA Division II All-American honors.

He led the nation in batting

See **MCKEE**, page 2AA

McKee

Continued from page 1AA

with a .495 average. Anderson belted 10 home runs, 11 triples and 18 doubles, and was among the top run producers with 45 RBIs. He finished second in stolen bases with 41 and led in runs scored with 62.

The talented shortstop was also selected the Diamond Warriors' most valuable player. Anderson is a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Several Diamond Warriors are included on the MACJC All-State Second Team. Honorees include catcher Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School; outfielder Xavier Franklin of Decatur, a product of Newton County High School; right-hand pitchers Fernando Gonzalez of Puerto Rico, Blake Dubuisson of Long Beach High School and Severino Signa of Stoneville, a product of Deer Creek High School; and first baseman Rubert Alcantara, a Dominican Republic native.

Other players receiving team honors include third baseman Maxwell Harmon of Meridian, who was selected most valuable defensive player and most improved position player; and outfielder Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central, a co-recipient of the Jamie Clark Memorial Award.

After capturing the MACJC State Championship, the Diamond Warriors won one of two matchups in the Region 23 Tournament to finish 32-21 under seventh-year head coach Neal Holliman.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 5 2013

6/5/2013 6:00:00 AM

McKee looks forward to future baseball

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Sports Editor

Caleb McKee's baseball career may, or may not be over.

Either way, the Neshoba Central and East Central Community College alumni says he is satisfied with what he has accomplished.

"I guess I have been playing baseball since I was three years old," McKee said. "I don't know if I will play again. I am going to Mississippi State next fall and I'm going to talk to them about possibly walking on.

"But regardless, I am going to Mississippi State to major in agricultural engineering. I want to get into surveying. I have had offers to go to other schools and pitch. But this is where all of my friends are," McKee said.

McKee, a left-handed pitcher, was part of the East Central Community College baseball team that won the state championship last month. Along with being part of a state championship, he was voted a team captain and named to the Mississippi Junior College all-state first team.

Looking back a couple of seasons, McKee's career almost ended during his senior season. His arm popped while he was pitching and it turned out that he torn a ligament and would require the Tommy John surgery to repair it. Before ungdergoing surgery, McKee came back to finish that season, and afterwards admitted that the injury probably made him a better pitcher.

"Before I hurt my arm, I depended on the fast-ball to get it by," McKee said. "But when I came back, I was barely throwing 70 mph and I had to use different pitches. It hurt but I got through it. And I learned then to be a better pitcher."

McKee had signed to play baseball at East Central. He had the surgery and was red-shirted his freshman year.

"The plan was to red-shirt my freshman season and to play one year at East Central," McKee said. "I had to build the strength back in my arm. I did therapy and then after a few weeks, started throwing again. At first it was 20 pitches a couple of times a week, then 40 pitches, and finally 95."

Though he didn't play in any games, McKee pitched in some ECCC scrimmages during his freshman year. He was ready when his sophomore year came around.

McKee went 8-2 on the mound and led ECCC pitchers with a 3.13 earned run average. McKee also led in strikeouts with 83. McKee also received the Diamond Warriors' Scholar Athlete award after posting a 4.0 gpa. and was a co-recipient of the Jamie Clark Memorial Award.

"He is an awesome young man," ECCC Coach Neal Holliman said. "He was a tremendous asset to our program as a person and player.

"Caleb plans to attend Mississippi State and continue playing and his degree. He has 3 years remaining. He will be a walk-on, but I expect him to make it. He turned down many D-I and D-II offers from very good programs to follow his desire to play at State," Holliman said.

McKee said he is looking forward to the next couple of years.

"I don't know if I'll get to play at State," McKee said. "My older brother, Joel, played a couple of years at East Central and then went to State and didn't play.

"He has enjoyed it. Either way, so will I."

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT √
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East Central Warriors' player taken in MLB draft

DECATUR — A career in Major League Baseball is now a reality for East Central Community College baseball standout Tim Anderson who was a first-round selection by the Chicago White Sox and 17th overall pick in the 2013 MLB Draft Thursday, June 6.

Anderson, the only community college player in the nation who was invited to attend the draft selection program held in New York and shown live on the Major League Baseball Network, said while interviewed following the announcement: "Dreams do come true....never give up."

ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman, who was also in attendance for the draft selection program, said of the nation-leading slugger and talented shortstop:

"Everyone knew that Tim has the ability and is a tremendous athlete, but what I keep informing people, is that his mental make-up is just as outstanding as his ability. We are very proud of Tim, and the contributions he made to our program go way beyond the field of play. We wish him the best and he will always be a great representative of East Central Community College, just as the other draftees that have come before him," Holliman said.

Anderson

Prior to beginning his two-year standout baseball career at East Central, Anderson was a basketball star at Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

However, knee injuries keep him off the court and reintroduced him to his "first love" of playing baseball. After two partial seasons on the diamond, Anderson caught the attention of Coach Holliman who provided the future major leaguer with his only collegiate offer.

Regarding his path to success, Anderson was quoted in *The Meridian Star*: "It wasn't easy going down my road. I'm very excited I didn't give up in the beginning. I knew it was going to be a tough road to travel down."

Anderson batted .360 and had four home runs his freshman season. He was also 30-for-30 in stolen base attempts. He received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors following the successful campaign.

He continued his success in the 2012 Jayhawk Summer League and hit .380 with eight home runs and more than 30 stolen bases. He was named the number-two Major League Baseball prospect following competition.

As a sophomore member on the Diamond Warriors' 2013 MACJC State Championship squad, Anderson led the nation in batting with a .495 (91-184) average and 62 runs scored while finishing second with 41 stolen bases.

The 6-1, 180-pound Anderson collected 10 home runs, 11 triples, 18 doubles and 45 RBIs. He was credited with a .563 on-base percentage and .864 slugging percentage.

Anderson was named a First-Team NJCAA Division II All-American and again garnered All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors.

He signed with the University of Alabama in Birmingham earlier in the year but is obviously now focused on the Chicago White Sox organization.

"I'm very excited to be a White Sox," Anderson said. "It's a great organization. I'm just ready to climb the ladder.

"Everyone says I have a lot of upside, and I do. I'm just going to come in and give it my all and play with everything I got."

Anderson is the fifth Diamond Warrior selected in the Major League Draft since 2009, as he follows ZeErika McQueen, Daniel Eichelberger, Donnie Tabb and Carlos Leal.

"With Tim's selection, this gives the Diamond Warriors more draftees in the last five years any other MACJC school," said Coach Holliman.

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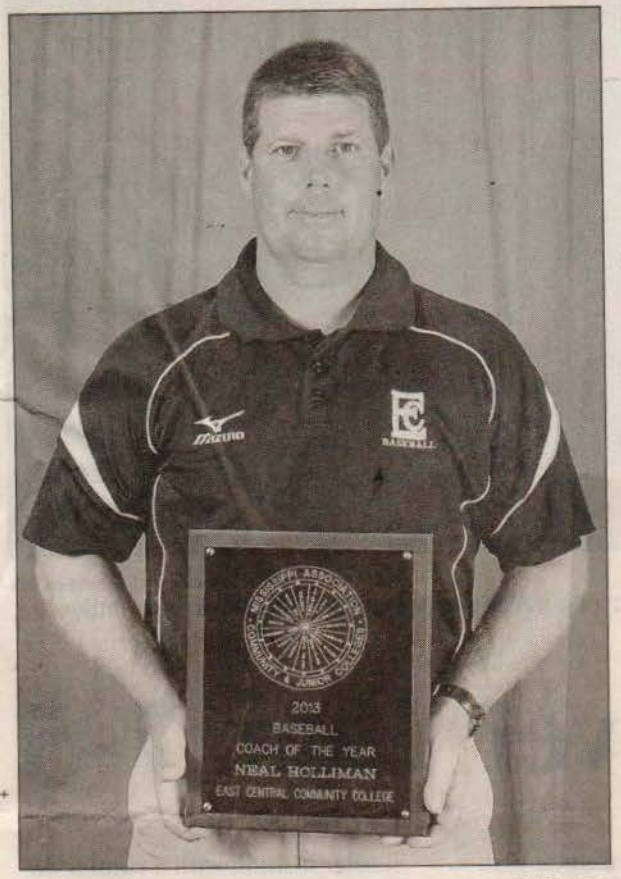
WEEK OF July 3, 2013

TOP WARRIOR



ECCC Photo

East Central Community College head baseball coach Neal Holliman was named 2013 MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year in recognition of his team's championship season. Holliman, shown displaying a plaque received in recognition of the honor, led the Diamond Warriors to the MACJC State Championship and a berth in the Region 23 Tournament en route to a 32-21 record. The talented EC squad also received national recognition throughout the successful campaign and was ranked as high as 16th in the NJCAA Division II Baseball Poll. The 2013 championship represents the second state title for Coach Holliman, who led his first Diamond Warrior squad to the prestigious honor in 2007. He also received MACJC Coach of the Year honors following the 2007 season. Holliman has a record of 200 wins and 159 losses during his seven years at the helm. He is married to the former Tracy Blackburn of Decatur and they have two young sons – Levi and Hayes.

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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July 17, 2013

ECCC's Tim Anderson named NJCAA Male Athlete of the Year

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – The NJCAA national office announced Wednesday the winner of the 2013 David Rowlands Award, presented annually to the nation's top male student-athlete. East Central Community College (Miss.) shortstop Tim Anderson earned the award after a remarkable season with the Warriors.

"It feels great to win this award," Anderson said. "To be recognized out of all of the junior college athletes in the country is a real honor."

"Anytime you have one of your athletes win a national award it's amazing because there's so many teams across the country that play junior college sports and it's such a large pool for them to be chosen from," said East Central CC head coach Neal Holliman. "We strive from the administration down to not only have quality players but quality individuals in all of our programs. This award is just another reiteration on what we're trying to achieve. We want to have a top-notch program that's not just about winning and losing, but that is successful all around."

Tim Anderson

Selected with the 17th overall pick in the 2013 MLB Draft in June, the Chicago White Sox made Anderson the seventh-highest drafted player to come straight from an NJCAA college. The Tuscaloosa, Ala., native is the highest drafted shortstop to come straight from a two-year college since Glen Franklin of Chipola (Fla.) was taken with the ninth overall pick in the 1978 draft.

"I was speechless. It was an exciting moment for me and my family to have my name called. It was a once-in-a-lifetime thing to do. My family and I got to tour New York City which was great. I didn't expect to be picked so high. My agent texted me saying 'Smile', right before

See **ANDERSON**, page 2B

WEEK OF July 17, 2013

Anderson

Continued from page 1B

the 17th pick so that's when I knew."

It didn't take the White Sox long to lock up their first round pick, signing Anderson to a minor league contract less than a week later – which included a $2.164 million signing bonus. The shortstop had originally signed a letter of intent with NCAA Division I program UAB before being drafted.

Anderson has already begun his professional baseball career, having played 19 games with the Kannapolis Intimidators in the South Atlantic League. The rookie is batting for a .320 average with six RBIs and seven stolen bases with the White Sox low-A affiliate.

"He's got the physical tools that it takes but more than anyone else that I've ever coached or played with, he has the mental makeup," Holliman said. "I think that is what separates a lot of people. Baseball is a game of failure and how you can deal with it. A lot of people have the physical tools, but can they make the mental and social adjustments? That is what he has more than anyone else I have ever been around and what will allow him to play in the Big Leagues."

Leading all of DII baseball with a .495 batting average in 2013, Anderson ranked 12th in DII with 18 doubles and hit 11 triples – third most in DII. The first team All-American recorded 10 home runs on the year, compiling an .879 slugging percentage – second highest in the DII ranks.

Anderson drove in 45 RBIs during the season and ranked fourth in DII with 41 stolen bases. Closing out his career as a Warrior, Anderson spurred East Central on to a 32-21 record and the Mississippi Association of Community & Junior Colleges championship.

In 2012, Anderson enjoyed immediate success as a freshman at East Central. The infielder led the Warriors with a .360 batting average, 37 RBIs and was a perfect 30-for-30 stealing bases. Anderson's effort in his first season earned him All-Region 23 honors.

"When we signed him, I knew he would be a very good player," Holliman said. "I thought he would be drafted when we signed him, although I had no idea he would go in the first round.

;He was a very exceptional athlete and hit coming out of high school. Physically he has gotten a lot better with reps but he's always been an athlete that has been able to hit."

Anderson is quick to credit Holliman and the East Central staff for playing a major role in where he is today.

"I had a bunch of one-on-one time with Coach Holliman," Anderson said. "We worked every day hitting in the cages, fielding ground balls and talking about the things I need to work on. He helped me identify my weaknesses and has helped me improve a lot."

At Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Anderson played a role in the Patriots winning the Alabama 6A State Basketball Championship in 2011. Despite his tremendous talents, Anderson didn't begin playing high school baseball until his junior year.

"It was a good decision because I had knee injuries in high school as a basketball player," Anderson said. "I felt that baseball was my best sport and once I got to East Central, it was the only sport that I had to focus on."

With his exceptional abilities and a load of potential, Anderson has become one of the most talked about players to come out of the 2013 MLB Draft.

Despite all the acclaim, Anderson has identified what areas of his game need improvement and is focusing on them.

"Right now, I'm working on my defense," Anderson said. "A lot of people say that I can't stay at shortstop so I want to prove them wrong and show that I can play there."

(News article courtesy www.njcaa.org)

organization in the United States with over 500 member schools in 43 states. Each year over 50,000 student-athletes compete in one of 28 different sports and the organization sponsors 48 national championship events and nine football bowl games each year. For more visit www.njcaa.org.

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WEEK OF July 17, 2013

EC hosting MVP Baseball Showcase

From school reports

An opportunity for high school baseball players to display their skills will be available Saturday, July 27, when East Central Community College's Baseball Program hosts its annual MVP Showcase on the Decatur campus.

Neal Holliman, Diamond Warrior head coach, said the event is held to identify talented athletes that have either been recommended or spotted as viable prospects. He encourages prospective team members "to take advantage of this opportunity and to take a closer look at our baseball program and college."

Coach Holliman encourages pre-registration for the MVP Showcase, due to the limited space available. The registration fee is $50 per player.

Activities begin at 9 a.m. with check-in and registration for position players. Also scheduled are running and stretching exercises and a parent's meeting at 9:30 a.m., followed by a pro-type workout to test players' arm strength and fielding ability at 10 a.m. Batting practice for position players begins at 11 a.m. and is followed by registration and check-in for pitchers at 11:30 a.m. Participants who want to showcase abilities as position players and pitchers should register at 9 a.m.

East Central's baseball program experienced another successful year under Coach Holliman, as the Diamond Warriors captured the MACJC State Championship and advanced to the Region 23 Tournament en route to a 32-21 record. The talented squad was also recognized for academic excellence by finishing third in the nation. Several players were also recognized as NJCAA Academic All-Americans and MACJC Academic All-State selections.

For more information on the MVP Showcase, contact head coach Neal Holliman, (601-635-6374) or assistant Justin Brewer (601-635-6226). The e-mail addresses are nholliman@eccc.edu and jbrewer@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF Oct. 13, 2013

DeLoach joins EC baseball

East Central Community College baseball coach Neil Holliman recently announced the addition of Scott DeLoach to his staff.

Holliman said DeLoach's main duties include serving as pitching coach and recruiting coordinator. He will also assist with catchers and hitters for the defending MACJC State Champion Diamond Warriors.

Prior to joining the EC staff, DeLoach served the past two years as an assistant baseball coach at Millsaps College in Jackson.

He helped lead the 2013 Diamond Majors to their first Southern Athletic Association regular season and tournament championships and a first-ever berth in the NCAA Division III World Series. The talented squad completed season action ranked eighth in the country with an impressive 38-14 record.

The Madison native was a standout baseball player at Mississippi State University in Starkville prior to beginning his coaching career at Millsaps.

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WEEK OF January 6, 2013

ECCC LADY WARRIORS BASKETBALL TEAM

Participating in the current season are the members of the 2012-13 East Central Community College women's basketball team. Seated from left are guards *Chelsea Campbell (15) of Forest High School*, Tyler Hearn (12) of West Jones, Taylor Brister (11) of Lawrence County and Tynesia Mickens (4) of Noxubee County, and forward *Niya Hughes (23) of Forest*. Standing from left are managers *Ashley Lyle of Scott Central* and Blake Gordon of Philadelphia; guard Xzandra Dowd (24), Neville High School, Monroe, La; forwards Reneisha Evans (30) of Newton County, *Ellen Black (5) of Scott Central* and Jakela Johnson (34) of West Jones; guard Jaianah Matthew (25) of Arkansas High School, Texarkana; forward Nakia Miller (10) of Louisville; and managers LeKeya Brown of Wayne County and *Pasha Williams of Scott Central*. Not pictured are head coach Crandal Porter and assistant Kotreece Bender.

(EC PHOTO)

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WEEK OF January 13, 2013

ECCC basketball squads drop decisions at Hinds

MACJC South Division competition resumed on a disappointing note for East Central Community College's basketball squads who were swept at Hinds Community College Monday night in games played on the Utica campus.

The Lady Warriors were outscored by a 71-61 margin and the Warriors were edged 81-75.

Xzandra Dowd and Jaianah Matthew poured in 21 and 17 points, respectively, to lead the EC women who fell to 4-9 overall and 1-1 in league play under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Dowd is a 5-8 sophomore guard from Neville High School in Monroe, La., and Matthew is a 5-8 sophomore guard and product of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark.

LaPorshia Mitchell tallied 15 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs who improved to 2-10.

Hinds led 38-27 at halftime.

Aquill Baynard pumped in 22 points to pace the Warriors who are still searching for their first season win under seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Baynard is a 6-8 sophomore forward from Elsik High School in Houston, Texas.

Other top scorers were Bobby Wrench, a 6-5 sophomore forward of Columbus, 12; and TeJiminon Leatherwood, a 5-7 sophomore guard from Northridge (AL) High School, 10.

Dominique Brown poured in 19 points to lead the Bulldogs who are 10-2 on the season.

EC trailed 37-35 at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors continue division play by hosting Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Thursday, Jan. 17.

Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

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WEEK OF January 13, 2013

Breaking THROUGH

Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Reneisha Evans fights to get a shot off against a Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College defender on Thursday night in Decatur.

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Weekly January 13, 2013

Continued from previous page (1)

East Central men win first game, look for many more

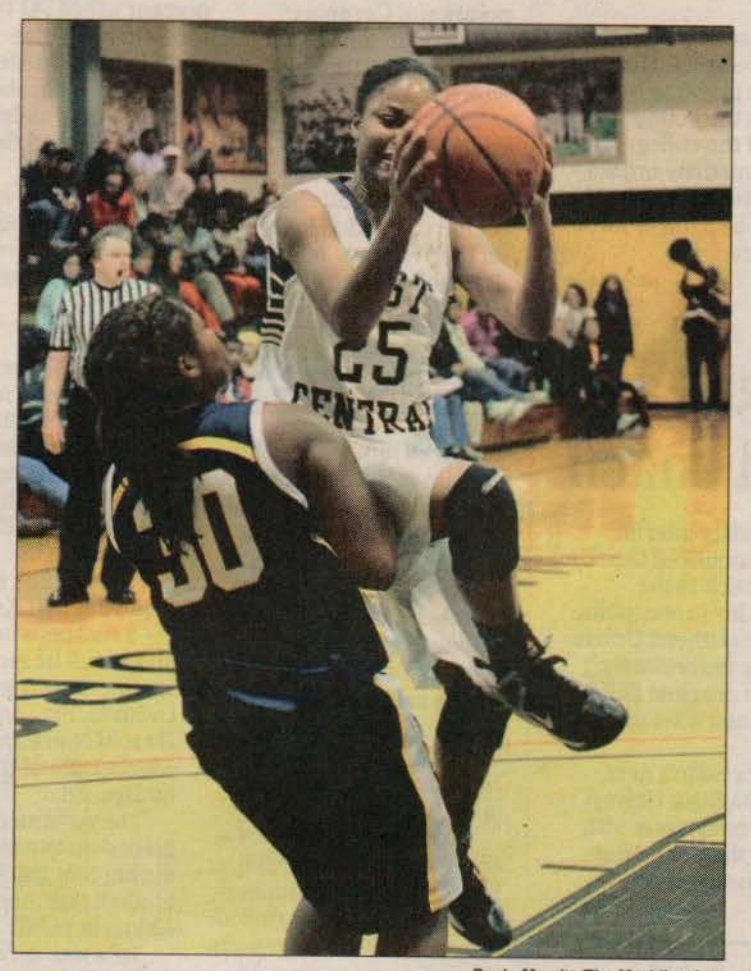
By Tony Tsoukalas
ttsoukalas@themeridianstar.com

DECATUR — East Central Community College head coach Maurice Bowie knew his 0-13 Warriors would play better than they had all season Thursday night at home against Gulf Coast. However, not even Bowie would have predicted his Warriors to come out and beat the Bulldogs 91-81.

"We got better in our last game at Hinds," Bowie said. "We just came out and played the way we were supposed to play and got our first victory. Today we played a lot better. I knew we were going to play well, I just didn't know it would be this good."

The Warriors started fast, and kept up their intensity all night, leading Gulf Coast for most of the game. Much of the Warriors success stemmed from their ability to control the ball, something that haunted the team in its previous 13 games. East Central only committed 12 turnovers on the night, while forcing Gulf Coast to 17.

"That was big," Bowie said. "We have had some problems with turnovers earlier in the season. We have a young guy, Chris Rhoney, he had been having some trouble transitioning into the college game. Now he is playing with a whole lot more confidence in the second half of the season."



Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Jaianah Matthew gets called for the charge against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Thursday night in Decatur.

The former West Lauderdale Knight, Rhoney was one of the league's leaders in turnovers entering the game. Against Gulf Coast, Rhoney only turned the ball over three times, while scoring 20 points and recording seven rebounds.

"I feel way more comfortable now," Rhoney said. "Me and coach have been working

See **ECCC** on page B2

Continued from previous page (2)

WEEK OF _____

ECCC from page B1

out at like 5:00 a.m. in the morning, working on my game. He has been working with me and telling me not to play too hard and just be smart."

Rhoney was one of four Warriors in double figures on the night, joining Randy Collier (12 points), Bobby Wrench (16 points) and Aquil Baynard (22 points).

While the first win is something for the Warriors to celebrate, Bowie urged his team not to expect anything less heading forward. Bowie said the Warriors will remain focused on making a playoff berth this season. East Central travels to Copiah-Lincoln on Tuesday.

"We are going to enjoy this tonight, but tomorrow we are going to come in and work hard," Rhoney said. "We can be great, I mean we can really be great. We can hang one of those banners on the ceiling."

Mississippi Gulf Coast 81
East Central women 69

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College dominated most categories of the score sheet during its win against East Central on Thursday night in Decatur. However, the category most disappointing to Warrior coach Crandal Porter could not be found in any statistic.

The difference, according to Porter, was Gulfport's effort and hunger throughout the contest.

"In the post, they just wanted it more," Porter said. "They outrebounded us, they scrapped for loose balls, they posted up better, and they just wanted the ball more than we did. You have to give them a lot of credit tonight."

Gulf Coast center Brittany Jones led the way for the Bulldogs in the post, scoring 22 points on 11-of-20 shooting, while also collecting eight rebounds. Presley Owens and Markia Nix both recorded double-doubles for the Bulldogs, with Owens recording 15 points and 10 rebounds while Nix put up 14 points and 12 rebounds.

The Bulldogs outrebounded the Warriors 59-48 while also forcing East Central into 15 turnovers. The low-post dominance took away East Central's inside game, forcing the Warriors to rely on low-percentage shots.

The reliance on jumpers would come back to haunt East Central, as the Warriors finished the night 28.8 percent from the field on 21-of-73 shooting.

After Xzandra Dowd got into early foul trouble, the Warriors almost exclusively turned to Jaianah Matthew for points.

"I had no choice, all I could do is shoot and hope for the best," Matthew said. "I tried everything I could to bring us back tonight."

The sophomore put up 47 shots including 23 3-point attempts en route to leading the Warriors in scoring with 22. Matthew shot a mere 27.6 percent from the field. However, with none of her teammates electing to take shots, she was forced to continue to put up shots.

"We were intimidated from the inside and looked unsure from the outside," Porter said. "Nobody but Matthew was taking shots, so it ended up with her taking a lot of them."

The loss moved East Central to 4-10 on the season. The Warriors travel to Copiah-Lincoln on Tuesday.

"We are still in the hunt for a playoff berth," Porter said. "Hopefully things will start to click and we will get more effort and execution. We will be fine."

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WEEK OF January 13, 2013

EC squads fall at EMCC; play Thursday

From school reports

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors were unable to maintain their halftime advantage and the Warriors are still looking for their first season win as the 2012-13 schedule resumed Tuesday night at rival East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

EC's women led 36-27 at the break but the Lady Lions rallied for a 67-60 decision in the non-division matchup.

Freshman Jakela Johnson poured in 18 points to lead the Lady Warriors, who dropped to 4-8 under first-year head coach Crandal Porter. Johnson, a 6-1 forward from West Jones, also led in rebounds with seven.

Also scoring were Xzandra Dowd of Neville (La.) High School in Monroe, 12; Taylor Brister of Lawrence County, nine; Tyneisa Mickens of Noxubee County, seven; Niya Hughes of Forest and Renisha Evans of Newton County, five each; and Nakia Miller of Louisville and Jaianah Matthew of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, two each.

Nockeye Qualls tallied 14 points to lead the EMCC women, who improved to 2-9 and avenged an earlier 49-41 loss to the Lady Warriors.

In the men's contest, EC trailed throughout the non-division battle and fell 91-75.

Freshman Chris Rhoney pumped in 23 points to lead the Warriors, who are now 0-12 under seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie. Rhoney is a 6-1 guard from West Lauderdale.

Other point makers were Jamere Eichelberger of Louisville and Aquill Baynard of Elsik High School in Houston, Texas, 12 each; TeJimion Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School, eight; Walter Evans of Hattiesburg and Bobby Wrench of Columbus, six each; and Tyler Anderson of Carver Military Academy and Jakaris Coleman of Forest Hill, four each. Baynard led in rebounds with eight.

Mack Foster scored 19 points to lead the Lions, who improved to 7-4 and swept the season series. EC fell 82-72 in early season action.

The Lions led 53-30 at the break.

EC squads travel to division foe Hinds Community College Monday, Jan. 14. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. on the Utica campus.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors continue division play by hosting MS Gulf Coast Thursday, Jan. 17. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

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WEEK OF February 3, 2013

ECCC Lady Warriors beat Jones; Warriors fall

DECATUR - Xzandra Dowd poured in 33 points and led East Central Community College's Lady Warriors to a 77-67 win over Jones County Junior College Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Dowd, a 5-8 sophomore guard from Neville (La.) High School, also pulled down a team high 10 rebounds and helped East Central snap a four-game skid to improve to 5-12 overall and 2-4 in the MACJC South Division under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Also scoring for EC were Jaianah Matthew of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark., 18; Jakela Johnson of West Jones, 12; Tynesia Mickens of Noxubee County, five; Nakia Miller of Louisville and Taylor Brister of Lawrence County, four each; and Ellen Black of Scott Central, one.

Caitlyn Spane poured in 19 points to lead the Lady Bobcats who dropped to 8-6 and 3-3.

EC held a 31-30 advantage at halftime.

In the men's game, the Warriors were outscored 90-71 and fell to 1-16 and 1-5 under seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Bobby Wrench, a 6-5 sophomore forward from Columbus led EC with 16 points.

Other point makers were Chris Rhoney of West Lauderdale, 15; Aquill Baynard of Elsik High School in Houston, Tex., nine; Walter Evans of Hattiesburg and Tyler Anderson of Carver Military Academy in Chjcago, seven each; TeJiminon Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School and Jamere Eichelberger of Louisville, six each; and Ghafton Owens of Harrison Central, two.

Jones was led by Donta Pittman's 13 points. The Bobcats improved to 13-3 and 5-1.

The Warriors trailed 50-46 at the break.

ECCC squads travel to Pearl River Community College Monday, Feb. 4, Game times are 5 and 7 p.m. on the Poplarville campus.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Hinds Community College Thursday, Feb. 6. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in Brackeen-Wood.

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WEEK OF February 3, 2013

Hinds Mens	**84**
ECCC	**77**

East Central Community College dropped a key game to Hinds in mens junior college basketball action Thursday. The 84-77 loss drops ECCC to 1-18 overall while Hinds moves to 12-7 on the season.

Dominique Brown dominated the boards for Hinds with 24 points. Josh Gaskin and Marcus Hurn added 14 points each.

East Central's offense effort was led by Bobby Wrench with 19 points. Aquill Baynard finished the night with 16 points while Chris Rhoney and Walter Evans added 15 points each.

East Central returns to action Monday at Gulf Coast Community College.

— Josh Taylor

ECCC Womens	**68**
Hinds	**51**

East Central Community College grabbed a 68-51 victory versus Hinds in womens junior college basketball action Thursday. The win improves ECCC's record to 7-12 overall while Hinds falls to 2-17 on the season.

Jaianah Matthews had a big night for the Lions with 17 points. Xzanzra Dowd added 12 points and Jakela Johnson finished with 11 points.

Shelley Griffith led the offense effort for Hinds with 15 points. Mozetta Greenwood had 13 points while Quin'Meca Shaw finished the night with 12 points.

The Lions hit the road Monday for a key matchup versus Gulf Coast Community College.

— Josh Taylor

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 3, 2013

EC women top Pearl River

Jaianah Matthew poured in 16 points and Xzandra Dowd and Taylor Brister contributed 15 points each in leading the East Central Community College women's basketball team to a 71-66 victory over division opponent Pearl River Community College Monday night on the Poplarville campus.

With the win, the Lady Warriors improved to 6-12 overall and 3-4 in the MACJC South Division under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Matthew, a 5'8" sophomore guard from Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark., had two treys and four assists in helping lead EC to a second-straight division win.

Dowd, a 5-8 sophomore guard from Neville High School in Monroe, La., led in rebounds with 13 and was also credited with four assists and two steals.

Brister, a 5-2 freshman guard from Lawrence County High School, had three treys, seven assists and three steals.

Other point makers were Reneisha Evans of Newton County, five; Tynesia Mickens of Noxubee County, three; and Niya Hughes of Forest, two.

Kalisha Washington pumped in 27 points to lead the Lady Wildcats who dropped to 5-10 and 3-5.

EC held a 33-22 advantage at halftime.

The Warriors were not as fortunate and fell 75-58.

Bobby Wrench, a 6-5 sophomore forward from Columbus, tallied 24 points to lead East Central, which dropped to 1-17 and 1-6 under seven-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Also scorers were Aquill Baynard of Elsik High School in Houston, Tex., 11; Randy Collier of South Leake, eight; Chris Rhoney of West Lauderdale, seven; and Walter Evans of Hattiesburg and T.J. Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School, four each.

Xavian Rimmer poured in 19 points to lead the Wildcats who improved to 16-2 and 7-1.

EC trailed 29-21 at the break.

ECCC squads return to Brackeen-Wood Thursday, Feb. 7 for division battles with Hinds Community College. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 17, 2013

Hoops: Warriors rally to beat Co-Lin in overtime

From school reports

East Central Community College's Warriors rallied from a 55-45 second half deficit to force overtime then held on for an 85-78 MACJC South Division victory over Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Sophomore forward Aquill Baynard sparked the comeback with 25 points and 14 rebounds, as EC improved to 2-19 overall and 2-8 in league play.

Baynard, a 6-8 product of Elsik High School in Houston, Texas, connected on seven of 10 field goals and made 10 of 12 free throws. He also made one of two treys.

Also scoring in double figures were Chris Rhoney of West Lauderdale, 17; Tejiminon Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School, 16; and Walter Evans of Hattiesburg, 11. Leatherwood's two throws in the final seconds sent the division matchup into overtime at 71-71.

Other point makers were Bobby Wrench of Columbus, nine; Randy Collier of South Leake, five; and Jamere Eichelberger of Louisville and Gafton Owens of Harrison Central, one each.

Chris Steverson and Fred Fairman had 15 points each to lead the Wolves, who dropped to 4-17 overall and 2-8 in the division.

EC held a 34-33 advantage at the break.

In the women's contest, division-leading Co-Lin escaped with an 80-70 win despite a 31-point scoring performance by EC's Xzandra Dowd.

Dowd, a 5-8 sophomore guard from Neville (La.) High School, made nine of 15 field goals and three of four three-point shots. She was also 10 of 15 from the charity stripe.

Jakela Johnson also had a productive night for the Lady Warriors (7-14, 4-6), as the 6-1 sophomore forward from West Jones collected 19 points and led in rebounds with 14.

Other scorers were Jaianah Matthew of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark., 10; Reneisha Evans of Newton County, five; Niya Hughes of Forest, four; and Tynesisa Mickens of Noxubee County, one.

Chanta Poole poured in 21 points for the Lady Wolves, who improved to 18-3 overall and 9-1 in league play.

The score was tied at 36 at the break.

Regular season action concludes Thursday, Feb. 21 at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville. The women's contest is set for 6 p.m. and will be followed by men's action at 8 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 24, 2013

Sophomore Warriors honored

These members of the 2012-13 East Central Community College men's basketball team were honored during "Sophomore Appreciation Night" Feb. 18 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Honorees and their respective high schools include (from left) Randy Collier, South Leake; Aquill Baynard, Elsik HS, Houston, Tex; TeJiminon Leatherwood, Northridge (Ala.); Hakeem Wesley, Newton County; and Bobby Wrench of Columbus, who are shown with family members during the special ceremony held between games of the home finale with Southwest Mississippi Community College. The Warriors are led by seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie and assistant Devarus "Scooter" Walker.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF March 31, 2013

EC continues search for hoops coach

From school reports

The search continues for a new men's head basketball coach at East Central Community College.

Maurice Bowie, who has led the Warrior basketball program since the 2006-07 season, submitted his resignation last month.

In a letter addressed to ECCC President Billy Stewart and Athletic Director Chris Harris, Bowie stated, "While I have been very satisfied at East Central, unfortunately I have to move on to advance my career. I have enjoyed working with you and appreciate the opportunity I have been given here."

"We want to thank Coach Bowie for his service to East Central Community College," said Stewart. "We wish all the best to him and his family as he pursues new opportunities and challenges."

Bowie's teams compiled an overall 49-116 record during his seven-year tenure.

His best season came in 2010-11 when EC qualified for post-season play after finishing fourth in the MACJC South Division with a 7-5 record.

The Warriors advanced to the MACJC State Tournament and Region 23 Tournament en route to a 13-12 record that year.

Applications for the position will be received through April 12.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

- Physical Science/Physics Instructor
- Chemistry Instructor

Deadline for Application
April 12, 2013
Date of Appointment
August 12, 2013

For more information contact:
Curt Skipper, Science Division Chair
Ph# 601-635-6222
E-mail: cskipper@eccc.edu

Specific job requirements available at
www.eccc.edu/employment

East Central Community College is an equal educational and employment opportunity provider.

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

East Central Women's Basketball Adds Seven

East Central Community College welcomed seven new teammates to next year's women's basketball squad.

Keocania Yarbrough, Andreka Harper, Haley Watkins, ShaMiya Evans and Shaniqua Quinn signed to play for new head coach Crandall Porter's first team in Decatur.

Family members were on hand as school president Dr. Billy Stewart spoke of dedication to winning in a new era for lady Warriors basketball.

Leake Academy point guard Anna Katherine Nowell and Brookhaven High's Christen Benson have also decided to play for Porter. Jaleshia Jones and Tynika Bender have already enrolled.

All but two of the students who make up Porter's first class come from East Mississippi.

Signees:
Anna Katherine Nowell - 5'6" PG, Leake Academy
Christen Benson - 5'8" G, Brookhaven High School
Keoceania Yarbrough - 5'7" G, Louisville High School
Andreka Harper - 5'9" G, Forrest High School
Haley Watkins - 5'7" G, Scott Central High School
ShaMiya Evans - 5'9" G/F, Lake High School
Shaniqua Quinn - 5'9" G/F, Brandon High School

Currently Enrolled:
Jaleshia Jones - 5'9" G/F, Wayne County High School
Tynika Bender - 5'5" PG, Newton High School

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
WTOK.com ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 14, 2013

CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

Forest High School's Andreka Harper, seated second from right, signed a national letter of intent to play basketball for East Central Community College on scholarship. She was joined by her father Cintelle, seated right; mother Shirley Harper, seated left and FHS Coach Eric Jones. Standing: Kotreece Bender, assistant coach at ECCC and Crandall Porter, ECCC head women's coach.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 14, 2013

Joins ECCC

Yarbrough Joins ECCC Lady Warriors

Louisville High School basketball standout Keoceania Yarbrough (seated right) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Yarbrough is a 5-7 guard. The new Lady Warrior is shown with her mother, Lakesha Thames of Louisville, and (standing from left) ECCC women's assistant basketball coach Kotreece Bender and head coach Crandal Porter. Yarbrough was among several area players who were recognized at the special ceremony held Wednesday, April 10 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 21, 2013

Morgan signs with East Central Community College

Demond Morgan, a senior at Morton High School, signed to play basketball next year at East Central Community College. Pictured with Demond is his mother, Ada Hollis and Assistant Principal, Joe Moncrief and head Basketball Coach, Marcus Stribling.

photo by RANDY LEIGH GRANT

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 28, 2013

ECCC PHOTO

EVANS JOINS LADY WARRIORS

Lake High School basketball standout Shamiya Evans (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Evans, a 5-9 guard, averaged eight points, six rebounds and two assists and was named to the District Six All-Tournament Team for 2012-13. Pictured with the new Lady Warrior are (seated from left) her mother, Shaneka Evans, and Lake girls' basketball coach Victor Gilstrap; and (standing from left) ECCC women's basketball coaches Kotreece Bender (assistant) and Crandal Porter (head).

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 28, 2013

ECCC PHOTO

WATKINS JOINS LADY WARRIORS

Scott Central High School basketball standout Haley Watkins (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Watkins, a 5-7 guard, averaged six points, four assists and five rebounds and helped lead the Lady Rebels to state titles in 2010 and 2012. The two-year starter received All-State recognition as a senior and was named All-District during her senior and junior campaigns. Pictured with the new Lady Warrior are (seated from left) her parents, Jackie and Dale Watkins, and (standing from left) Scott Central women's head basketball coach Chad Harrison and ECCC women's basketball coaches Crandal Porter (head) and Kotreece Bender.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 22, 2013

EC head basketball coach

Robert Thompson to take hardcourt reins

DECATUR — Robert Thompson is the new men's head basketball coach at East Central Community College in Decatur.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart introduced the new Warrior head coach during a press conference held Tuesday, May 14, in the Board of Trustees Room located in the Vincent Administration Building.

Dr. Stewart said he was initially impressed with Coach Thompson's 20-year coaching career at the college level, including 14 years as the head basketball coach at institutions in the NAIA and NCAA Division II. However, he quickly added he was more impressed with what he learned about Coach Thompson during the search process.

"While we were honored to have several outstanding coaches apply for this position, I am convinced that we have hired the best fit for our basketball team at this time in our program's development," said Dr. Stewart.

"Coach Thompson has been described to me as a tireless recruiter with an unmatched work ethic who knows what it takes to develop a program from the ground up. He has also been described as a role model for young men, a man of great integrity, and a humble person who just loves to work with and develop young men of character.

"That is what we are all about here at East Central. I know that Coach Thompson is committed to building a men's basketball program that will model the 'EC WAY - Excellence with Class' and we look forward to great things in our men's basketball program through his leadership."

ECCC PHOTO

Robert Thompson (left) was introduced as East Central Community College's new men's head basketball coach during a press conference held Tuesday, May 14. Coach Thompson is shown with ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart who presented the new Warrior head coach with his first ECCC apparel.

Coach Thompson, who began his new duties on Wednesday, May 15, said he is "excited" and "ready to start building" a successful Warrior basketball program.

"I'm very grateful to be here. I've been very blessed…I've been around some great people who did some great things in my life and I want to share that with the kids here at East Central…I'm very fortunate and blessed.

"I told the board members earlier today it's going to be real simple…ABCs-Academics, Basketball and Character. If they are here for two years, I want to make sure they graduate in two years. We're going to do player development every day: pass, dribble and shoot. We're going to get better. We're going to teach them how to play and let them play. And then we're going to work on character. We're going to make them men. When they leave here, I want them to be proud to have been at East Central and make their parents proud. Because that's what I'm going to do."

Thompson, 44, comes to East Central following a 10-year career as head coach at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Ala., where his teams accumulated an a overall 142-156 mark.

He led the Badgers to four winning seasons and two campaigns in which the squad finished with a .500 record. His best season was in 2005-06 season when the Badgers went 23-7 and finished second in the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference and made a Sweet 16 appearance in the NAIA National Tournament. Thompson was named Conference Coach of the Year in recognition of the successful campaign.

Prior to arriving at Spring Hill, Thompson was head men's basketball coach at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville for four seasons, compiling a 43-62 record.

His "Wonder Boys" squad in 1999-2000 finished third in the Gulf South Conference West Division and was ranked eighth in the NCAA South Regional. Thompson received Gulf South Conference Coach of the Year honors following the successful season.

His overall record as head coach is 185-215.

A Tupelo native, Thompson has also served as an assistant men's basketball coach at several colleges in Mississippi.

He was a member of the Delta State University staff from 1996 to 1999 and helped lead the Statesmen to the NCAA South Regional Championship in 1997-98 and Gulf South Tournament titles in 1996-97 and 1997-98.

APPEARED IN:

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Weekly May 27, 2013

Continued from previous page

named

Thompson was employed at Belhaven College from 1993-96, where in addition to duties as a men's basketball assistant he served as cross country coach.

He began his coaching career in 1992-93 as an assistant men's basketball coach at Neosho County Community College in Chanute, Kansas, where helped lead the Jayhawks to their most wins in the school's history (23) and first division championship in 25 years.

Thompson was a standout basketball player at Shannon High School and continued his athletic career at Belhaven College, where the four-year letter-winner served as team captain from 1989-92.

He was also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Student Government Association Executive Council. He was elected a Senior Senator in 1991.

He received a bachelor's degree in physical education from Belhaven College in 1992 and completed a master's degree in physical education from Jackson State University in 1997.

Coach Thompson is married to the former Freda Rowe of Louisville. They have two sons, Joshua, 15; and Justin, nine.

ECCC Kids' College Scheduled

A Spa Kamp for ages 5-15 on July 1 and 2 kicks off the 2013 Kids' College Program at East Central Community College. Activities for ages 5-12 continue during the month of July with classes ranging from athletics to cake decorating and law enforcement.

The registration fee is $40 for the first class and $30 for each additional class (per student).

For more information, contact James Miller at (601) 635-6267 or visit www.eccc.edu.

WEEK OF 04.6.2013

EAST CENTRAL CC WOMEN BASKETBALL PLAYERS ASSIST NEWTON, MISS. YOUNGSTERS

Share Members of the 2013 East Central Community College (Miss.) women's basketball team recently participated in a community service project at Newton Elementary School. Players and managers read books to kindergarten and first-g ...More >>

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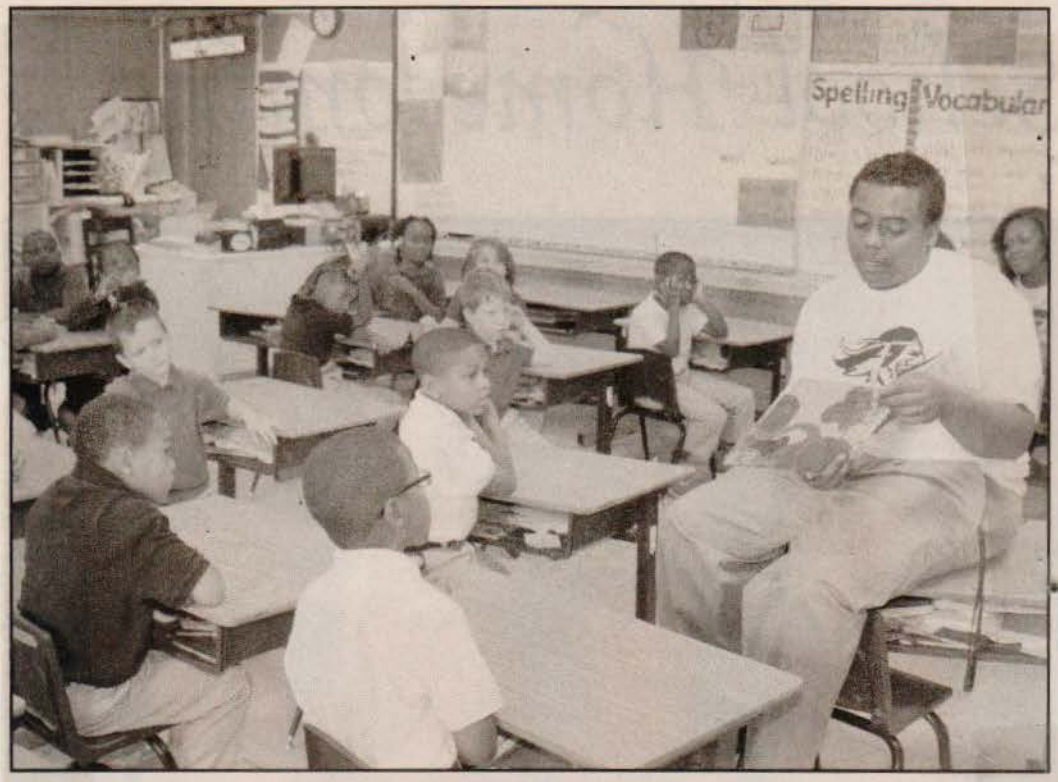
WEEK OF Oct. 20, 2013



ECCC student manager reads to area children

Laromeo McKee was among East Central Community College student-athletes who recently participated in a community service project at Newton Elementary School. McKee, who serves as a student manager, and Lady Warrior basketball players read books to kindergarten and first-grade students, assisted with their homework and concluded activities by playing various outside games. McKee is a product of Scott Central High School. ECCC women's basketball head coach Crandal Porter, who previously led Newton High School basketball programs, initiated the project. "Because of my obvious connection with the Newton community, I felt the need to show the connection between sports, and basketball in particular, and education," said Coach Porter. "Also, I wanted to see the impact that athletes could have on the lives of young kids. We plan to make appearances in other communities and schools as well." (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF NOV. 3, 2013

ECCC basketball squads split opener

Jalesisha Jones poured in 27 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in leading East Central Community College's Lady Warrior to a 76-63 season-opening victory over Holmes Community College Saturday in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Johnson, a 5-7 freshman forward, made 10 of 15 field goals, connected on six of 10 free throws and nailed a trey in the non-division matchup.

Also scoring in double figures for Crandal Porter's squad were sophomore forward Tanihhija Hughes of Forest, who contributed 12 points; and freshman guard Tynika Bender of Newton, who had 11 points.

Other scorers were Bryanna McClendon of Lake, nine; Tyneisha Mickens of Noxubee County, seven; Keoceania Yarbrough of Louisville, five; Shamyia Evans of Lake, four; and Breona Foster of Neshoba Central, one.

EC held a 36-32 advantage at halftime.

In the men's contest, East Central led 63-57 with 6:13 left but the Bulldogs rallied to claim a 68-65 victory and spoil Robert Thompson's debut as head coach.

Sophomore Jacques Johnson led EC with 17 points and six rebounds. He made seven of nine field goals, was two of four from the free-throw line and connected on his only attempt from three-point range. Other double-figure point makers were freshman forward Quinton Campbell, 12; and freshman guard Ramone Tate, 11.

EC trailed 34-33 at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors were to host Coahoma Community College Monday. East Central squads entertain Mississippi Delta Community College Saturday in the final home games of the 2013 campaign. The women's matchup begins at 1 p.m. and will be followed by the men's contest at 3 p.m. in Brackeen-Wood.

ECCC GOSPEL CHOIR TO PERFORM NOV. 13

The East Central Community College Gospel Choir will hold its annual fall concert at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. Jerry Smith, vice chairman of the ECCC Board of Trustees, will serve guest speaker. In addition to the EC choir, members of the Junior Angels of Newton will perform. For more information, contact choir sponsor Brenda K. Johnson at 601-635-2111.

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10, 2013

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ECCC Warriors rally to top Delta by 5

Quinton Campbell and Jacques Johnson each scored 17 points and Michael Matlock added 15 in leading East Central Community College's Warriors to a 77-72 come-from-behind victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Saturday, Nov. 9 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

With the win, EC improved to 2-1 under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Campbell, a 6-7 freshman forward from Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, also led in rebounds with seven.

Johnson, a 6-4 sophomore guard/forward from Jackson Provine, collected six boards. Matlock, a 6-6 freshman guard/forward from Central High School in Memphis, grabbed five rebounds.

Other scorers were Terrance Mijahid of Westwood High School in Memphis, nine; Kristian Clark of St. Martin in Ocean Springs, seven; and Demarkus Jones of Terry and Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, six each.

Marquarius Boddie pumped in 20 points to lead the Trojans, who fell to 2-1.

EC trailed 43-30 at the break.

In the women's contest, EC dropped its first contest of the 2013-14 campaign with an 85-77 setback to the Lady Trojans.

Jaleshia Jones poured in 21 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors, who are now 2-1 under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Jones is a 5-8 freshman forward and product of Wayne County High School.

Also scoring in double figures were Bryanna McClendon, a freshman guard from Lake, 16; Tynika Bender, a freshman guard from Newton, 14; and sophomore forward Tanihhija Hughes of Forest, 11.

Other point makers were Ty-nesisa Mickens of Noxubee County, eight; Shamyia Evans of Lake, six; and Andreka Harper of Forest, one. Mickens led in rebounds with nine.

Aqueshia Kimble had 23 points to lead the Lady Trojans, who remain undefeated at 3-0.

EC trailed 34-28 at halftime.

ECCC travels to Goodman tonight (Monday, Nov. 11) for a rematch with Holmes Community College squads. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. o the Goodman campus.

The Lady Warrior won the first meeting by 76-63 margin the War riors were clipped 68-6 in the season opening con tests held Nov. 2 i Decatur.

Competition this wee continues on the road fo the Lady Warriors an Warriors as they battl long-time rival East Mi sissippi Community Co lege Thursday, Nov. 1 Game times are 5:30 an 7:30 p.m. in Scooba.

ECCC teams set goals for 2013-14 season

Despite a lack of experience, expectations for success remain high for East Central Community College's basketball teams for the 2013-2014 season.

Only one starter returns on Crandal Porter's Lady Warrior squad, which finished 8-15 overall and 5-7 in the MACJC South Division in 2012-13.

Although his current squad is mostly composed of freshmen, Porter said several players have experienced success on the hardwood.

"I like that this team is made of a lot of local kids who have won championships and are used to winning," said the second-year head coach, who captured several state titles leading basketball programs at Newton High School. "Hopefully their success will carry over to our program."

Porter further describes his players as a "blue collar" squad….a "tough team that plays hard."

Tyneisa Mickens of Macon is the only returning starter. Mickens is a 5-9 forward from Noxubee County High School.

Other returnees are Niya Hughes, a 5-8 forward from Forest, who saw significant playing time as a non-starter; and Tyler Hearn, a 5-6 guard from West Jones High School in Laurel. Center Kimberly Wallace (6-3) is a sophomore newcomer on the squad and hails from Quachita Parrish High School in Monroe, La.

Porter said he is "very pleased" with the recruiting class, which includes guards Shamyia Evans (5-7) and Bryanna McClendon (5-4), both of Lake; Shaniqua Quinn (5-9) of Brandon, Anna Katherine Nowell (5-6) of Leake Academy, Keoceaniea Yarbrough (5-6) of Louisville, Tynkia Bender (5-3) of Newton, Andreka Harper (6-1) of Forest, Whitney Williams (5-9) of Percy L. Julian High School, Chicago; Haley Watkins (5-7) of Scott Central and Breona Foster (5-6) of Neshoba Central; and forward Tynika Bender (5-3) of Newton.

See **ECCC**, page 15

Pictured above are members of the 2013-14 East Central Community College women's basketball team. Firs row, from left are managers Warner Parkes of Nanih Waiya, D'Noskin Hornsby of Morton, Laromeo McKe and Teelisa Kennedy, both of Scott Central; and Javarius Moore of Newton. Second row, from left, are hea coach Crandal Porter, guards Tyler Hearn (5) of West Jones; Keoceania Yarbrough (15) of Louisville, Breon Foster (32) of Neshoba Central, Tynika Bender (20) of Newton, Bryanna McClendon (30) of Lake, Gabriell Wilson (55) of Leake Central and Haley Watkins (25) of Scott Central; and assistant coach Kiara Ruffin. Bac row, from left are guard Whitney Williams (24) of Percy L. Julian (Chicago, Ill.), forwards Tanihhija Hughe (23) of Forest, Jaleshia Jones (21) of Wayne County and Ty-neisa Mickens (4) of Noxubee County; cente Kimberly Wallace (14) of Ouachita Parrish (Monroe, La.); guards Andreka Harper (22) of Forest, Shamyi Evans (10) of Lake and Shaniqua Quinn (11) of Brandon; forward Sharayne Walker (35) of Leake Centra and guard Anna Katherine Nowell (12) of Leake Academy. (EC Photo)

Ready to begin a successful 2013-14 campaign are the above members of the East Central Community College men's basketball team. Seated from left are guards Demond Morgan (3), Morton, and Keon McKinney (2), West Point; managers Malcom Stubbs, Forest Hill, and DeBarius Thigpen, Forest; assistant coach Devarus "Scooter" Walker, head coach Robert Thompson, managers Kardarius McClendon, Lake, and Jamere Eichelberger, Louisville; and guards Ramone Tate (12), St. Stanislaus, and Kevin Kirk (10), St. Martin. Back row, from left are guards Demarkus Jones (00), Terry, and Nigel Bradley (14), Forest Hill; forward Tre Collins (11), Newton County Academy, and Michael Matlock (1), Memphis Central; guard/forward Quinton Campbell (23), Mary G. Montgomery (Mobile, Ala.) forward/center Terrance Mujahid (4), Westwood (Memphis, Tenn.); guard Kristian Clark (5), St. Martin; and forwards Terry Carter (21), Louisville; Jacques Johnson (30), Provine; and Kiese Kirkland (35), Yazoo City. (EC Photo)

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OF Nov. 17, 2013

APPEARED IN:

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East Central squads split decisions at Holmes Community College

Jaleshia Jones pumped in 26 points and led East Central Community College's Lady Warriors to a hard-fought 81-79 victory over Holmes Community College Monday night in Goodman.

EC improved to 3-1 following the non-division matchup and swept the season series with the Lady Bulldogs. The Lady Warriors cruised 76-63 in the season opener at Brackeen-Wood.

Jones, a 5-8 freshman forward and product of Wayne County High School, connected on 10 of 16 field goals and was perfect on all three trey attempts. She made three of six free throws.

Also scoring in double figures were Tynika Bender, a 5-3 freshman guard from Newton, 18; and Ty-neisha Mickens, a 5-9 sophomore forward and product of Noxubee County High School, 12.

Bender made three crucial free throws down the stretch. Mickens led in rebounds with 12.

Other point makers were Shamyia Evans and Bryanna McClendon, both of Lake, eight each; Keoceania Yarbrough of Louisville, five; and Tanihhija Hughes of Forest, four.

Carmesha Nalls tallied 22 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, who fell to 1-3.

EC led 42-35 at the break.

In the men's contest, EC was outscored 78-68 and fell for the second time this season to the Bulldogs, who escaped with a 68-65 decision in the season opener in Decatur.

Jacques Johnson was again the top scorer for EC (2-2), as the 6-4 sophomore guard/forward from Jackson Provine poured in 25 points. Johnson connected on nine of 19 field goals, made two of seven shots from three-point range, and was five of six from the charity stripe.

Also scoring in double figures was Quinton Campbell, who had 10 points and grabbed seven rebounds. Campbell, a 6-7 freshman forward, is a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile.

Other scorers were Terrance Mujahid of Westwood High School in Memphis, nine; Demond Morgan of Morton, eight; Michael Matlock of Central High School in Memphis, seven; Demar Jones of Terry, six; and Ram Tate of St. Stanislaus, th Mujahid led in rebounds nine.

Dayshawn Watkins poure 17 points to lead the Bulld who improved to 3-1.

EC trailed 43-37 at halftir

ECCC squads travel to Mississippi Community Col Thursday, Nov. 14. Game ti are 5:30 and 7:30 on the Sco campus.

WEEK OF DEC. 1, 2013

Meridian Community College's Shaquillia Manuel sails by the goal as she sinks a shot against East Central Community College Thursday night.

Paula Merritt/ The Meridian Star

Eagles split conference opener

By Tony Tsoukalas
The Meridian Star

Meridian Community College opened up it's Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges conference schedule with a split against East Central Community College at Graham Gymnasium Thursday night.

The Lady Eagles started the doubleheader with a 92-65 win over Lady Warriors before ECCC hung on for a 71-69 win in the mens game.

Meridian (women) 92
East Central 65

With only seven active players on her roster, Meridian Community College women's basketball coach Jocelyn McGilberry knew she needed a strong performance from her entire team if the MCC was going to begin its conference slate on a positive note.

The Lady Eagles did not disappoint, rallying behind six double-digit scorers to top East Central 92-65. Victoria Stewart led MCC with 19 points to go along with eight assists on the game. Kristen Sampson followed with 18 points and was joined in double digits by Miaya Crowder (15 points), Shaquillia Manuel (13 points), Londyn Thomas (10 points) and Feleshia Walters (10 points).

"That's what I tried to build the whole time," McGilberry said. "We are a running team, transition offense and defense. They pretty much showed it tonight. We only have seven players, so we have to utilize them."

The Lady Eagles raced to an early lead, going on an 8-2 run to begin the game.

See **Hoops** on page B2

Paula Merritt / The Meridian Star

Meridian Community College's Londyn Thomas tries to pass the ball away as she loses her footing against East Central Community College Thursday night.

HOOPS from page B1

Meridian outran the Lady Warriors on offense and capitalized on points off of turnovers to eventually push the lead to 45-27 at the half.

MCC didn't slow down in the second half either, as Stewart erupted for seven points early to send the Lady Eagles on a 14-0 run and take a commanding 69-37 lead with 14:43 left to play in the game.

With transfer point guard Kandice Sims held out due to unfinished paperwork, Stewart has been moved from shooting guard to the point this season. McGilberry said the transition has been effortless so far.

"I put her in that position one day at practice and she did exactly what she was supposed to do," McGilberry said. "She does everything we her to do."

MCC (6-1, 1-0) will host Hinds on Monday, while ECCC (5-4, 0-1) will travel to Pearl River.

East Central (men) 71
Meridian 69

Trae Dunson was unable to hit on a potential game-winning three-pointer as regulation ended and the Meridian men's basketball team fell to East Central, 71-69 Thursday night.

Trailing 71-67 with less then a minute, Donald King drove in the lane to cut the lead to 71-69. After a defensive stop on East Central's next time up the court, King drew a foul to put him at the line for a chance to tie the game with 46.7 second left to play. However, the freshman guard was unable to sink either of his two free throws.

The Eagles (1-5, 0-1) got a final opportunity with 23 second left to play, but Dunson's last-second shot from the right side of the arch found iron and the Warriors (5-4, 1-0) held on for the victory.

"Things weren't going our way early," first year ECCC head coach Robert Thompson said. "I knew we'd find a way and our kids just made something of it."

Jacques Johnson led the Warriors with a game-high 26 points while Will Sheriff led the Eagles with 19.

"We were trying to run the turkey off him," Thompson said of Johnson. "He was exhausted down the stretch, but he's been one of our leaders all year. We expect that from him. He's just a big player for us."

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____ WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Dec. 15, 2013

ECCC teams drop decisions at Pearl River

East Central Warriors and Lady Warriors completed 2013 competition by falling to Pearl River in MACJC South Division action Monday, Dec. 9 in Poplarville.

The Lady Warriors were clipped 67-58 and fell to 5-5 overall and 0-2 in league play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

The Warriors were outscored 70-53 and dropped to 5-5 overall and 1-1 in the division under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Lady Warrior point makers were Jaleshia Jones of Wayne County, 14; Tynika Bender of Newton, 10; Tanihhija Hughes of Forest and Tyneisha Mickens of Noxubee County, nine each; Bryanna McClendon of Lake, six; Shamiya Evans of Lake, Andreka Harper of Forest and Haley Watkins of Scott Central, three each; and Whitney Williams, a product of Percy L. Julian High School in Chicago, one. Mickens led in rebounds with seven.

Shanta' Echols poured in 23 points to lead the Lady Wildcats, who improved to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in division play.

EC trailed 24-19 at the break.

In the men's contest, Quinton Campbell was top Warrior scorer with 18 points and 10 rebounds. Campbell is a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile.

Other EC scorers were Jacques Johnson of Jackson Provine, 12; Michael Matlock of Terry, seven; Terrance Mujahid of Westwood HS in Memphis and Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, six each; and Terry Carter of Louisville, four.

Lester Crosby pumped in 20 points to lead the Wildcats who improved to 9-0 and 2-0.

Pearl River held a 33-31 advantage at halftime.

ECCC squads return to action Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2014, by hosting rival East Mississippi Community College. Game times are 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Days before taking on Pearl River, the Warriors notched a 71-69 win over Meridian to open South Division play with a victory under first-year coach Robert Thompson.

Sophomore Jacques Johnson poured in 23 points to lead the Warriors in victory.

The Lady Warriors were no match for the Lady Eagles that night, as Meridian cruised to a 92-65 win.

Jaleisha Jones led ECCC with 23 points.

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WEEK OF Dec. 22, 2013

Broadcasts planned for EC home games

Warrior fans unable to attend East Central Community College's remaining home basketball games can hear all the action through audio broadcasts available on the college's Web site (www.eccc.edu) and on the Scott County Broadcasting Network (www.850AMWQST.com) or on smartphones by downloading the Free App WQST/SCBN at the iTunes Store or Google Play.

Frank Edmondson, station general manager and longtime sports broadcaster, will serve as game announcer. Edmondson also serves as public address announcer for Warrior football games.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors resume 2013-14 competition by hosting longtime rival East Mississippi Community College Tuesday, Jan. 7 followed by MACJC South Division matchups with Hinds Community College Monday, Jan. 13.

Game times for home contests are set for 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Home contests are also scheduled with Copiah-Lincoln (Tuesday, Jan. 21), Southwest (Thursday, Jan. 23), Meridian (Thursday, Jan. 30), Pearl River (Monday, Feb. 3), Gulf Coast (Monday, Feb. 10) and Jones County (Thursday, Feb. 20).

The Lady Warriors are 5-5 overall and 0-2 in league play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

The Warriors are also 5-5 overall and 1-1 in division competition.

For more information, contact ECCC Athletics, 601-635-6401 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 401.

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January 16, 2013

East Central to sponsor forums

Program in Scott County set January 23

FOREST — East Central Community College in Decatur is providing Public Forums in local communities during January in an ongoing effort to solicit input on how the college can better serve its five-county district and surrounding areas.

EC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart said information received from the forums will be used to assist the College in its strategic planning process titled 20/20 Vision.

"We all know East Central has affected the lives of countless individuals who would otherwise not have had the opportunity to achieve their educational goals," said Dr. Stewart, who began serving as the College's eighth president in July 2012. "However, while we celebrate our storied past, we must also plan for a bright future."

Dr. Stewart said the term 20/20 Vision is used "to provide a clear picture of where we are headed and what we want to achieve by the year 2020. So far, this process has included a review of the College's mission and core values in order to solidify institutional commitments necessary to achieve our vision."

Public Forums are scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in each of the five district counties according to the following schedule:

- Tuesday, Jan. 15 – Newton Depot, Newton
- Wednesday, Jan. 16 – Lake Tiak O'Khata (Flamingo Room), Louisville
- ***Wednesday, Jan. 23 – Scott County Courthouse, Forest***
- Monday, Jan. 28 – Philadelphia Depot, Philadelphia
- Tuesday, Jan. 29 – Carthage Chamber of Commerce, Carthage

Dr. Stewart said he is hoping residents of the local communities will respond to the College's request for feedback on the future of EC.

"As the community's college, we want to know how members of the community see the College now and in the future," Stewart said. "We need to know your thoughts and ideas related to the question, 'What should the College look like in the year 2020?'"

Dr. Stewart said local civic and economic development leaders will provide assistance at each forum, which will also be attended by several College administrators and staff members.

Refreshments will be provided at each location.

For more information, contact the ECCC Public Information Office, 601-635-6242 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 242. The e-mail address is bjohnston@eccc.edu.

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College Visits / Events / News

WEEK OF January 27, 2013

East Central Community College Wants to Hear from You!!

East Central Community College will be hosting a public forum Tuesday January 29, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Chamber Center on Pearl Street. ECCC is hosting a series of Public Forums to solicit input from the communities they serve regarding the future of the College as they develop their *2020 Vision* program.

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Main Street
Carthage Mississippi

WEEK OF February 10, 2013

Neshoba County educators attend ECCC workshop

These area educators recently attended the annual High School Counselors' Workshop at East Central Community College in Decatur, where they were provided information on academic transfer, career-technical and healthcare programs, ACT testing, financial aid, scholarships, housing and admissions. Neshoba County educators attending included (seated, from left) Abby Jenkins, Philadelphia High School; Robin Stone, Neshoba Central High School; Sharon Brooks, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center; and Lena Willis, Choctaw Central High School; and (standing, from left) Marsha Ramia', Neshoba Central High School; Jason Gentry (principal), Philadelphia High School; and Quinn Carlisle, Choctaw Central High School. Also pictured is Michael Alexander, ECCC academic counselor. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF February 4-7, 2013

Counselors

Winston County Educators Attend ECCC Workshop

These area educators recently attended the annual High School Counselors' Workshop at East Central Community College in Decatur, where they were provided information on academic transfer, career-technical and healthcare programs, ACT testing, financial aid, scholarships, housing and admissions.

Winston County counselors attending included (seated, from left) Christi Vanlandingham, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center; Judy Sanders, Winston Academy; and Tammy Parkes, Nanih Waiya High School; and (standing, from left) Julie Clark, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center; Tomeka Walker, Louisville High School; and Monica Young, Noxapater High School. Also pictured is Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter. (EC Photo)

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Faculty / Administration

WEEK OF February 17, 2013

Retirement time

McAdory Honored on Retirement

Mae McAdory (center) of Louisville recently retired following 10 years as Jackson Hall dormitory supervisor at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is shown during her retirement reception receiving cards and gifts from ECCC Dean of Students James Miller (left) and Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF February 17, 2013

Scott County Educators Attend ECCC Workshop

These area educators recently attended the annual High School Counselors' Workshop at East Central Community College in Decatur, where they were provided information on academic transfer, career-technical and healthcare programs, ACT testing, financial aid, scholarships, housing and admissions. Scott County counselors attending included (seated, from left) Shellie Pennypacker and Misty Wells, both of Morton High School; Kery Kenna, Forest High School; and Debbie Rasco (librarian), Morton High School; and (back row, from left) Alyssa Williams, Lake High School; Dawn McKee, Sebastopol; John Cash, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center; Reagan Shoemaker, Scott Central High School; and Karen Moorhead, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center. Also pictured is Amanda Walton, ECCC career-technical counselor/recruiter. (EC Photo)

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Alumni / Scholarships / Homecoming

WEEK OF March 16, 2013

Events at ECCC

Making plans for various events in 2013 are the above leaders of the East Central Community College Alumni Association who recently held their spring semester meeting on the Decatur campus. Some of the events planned later this year include the annual Warrior Golf Classic, scheduled Thursday, June 27, at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw; and Homecoming 2013, which will be held Saturday, Oct. 12. More details about each event will be announced at a later date. The alumni group also selected former women's basketball coach Sammy Pace for induction into the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame. The annual event will be held April 23, 2013, at the Muse Center on the Rankin County Campus of Hinds Community College. Seated from left are ECCC staff members Amanda Walton, career-technical counselor, and Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction; Alumni Association officers Dow Thomas of Louisville, vice president; Cheryl Comans of Cleveland, out-of-district representative; Jeanette Thrash, vice president; and Ann Burkes, Newton County representative, both of Decatur. Standing from left are ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart; Scott County representatives Matt Alford and Bill Freeman, both of Forest; Winston County representatives Bruce Lee and Ron Perkins, both of Louisville; Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, Association past president; Leake County representative Paul Chamblee of Carthage; Newton County representative Harvey Trapp of Decatur; Jerald Everett of Clinton, out-of-district representative; and Dr. Randall E. Lee, ECCC vice president for student services. For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601-635-6327.

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WEEK OF March 14, 2013

Hanna, Hardy

Sophomore Andrew Hanna of Union and biology instructor

selected as '13 ECCC HEADWAE honorees

Kim Hardy of Philadelphia were recently selected to represent East Central Community College in Decatur at the 2012-13 Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence program held recently in Jackson.

The annual HEADWAE observance was established by the Mississippi Legislature to honor the academically talented students and faculty members from each of the 36 public and private member institutions of the Mississippi Association of Colleges.

Honorees are invited to the State Capitol where they are welcomed by Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves and recognized in each Legislative chamber.

A luncheon is scheduled at the Jackson Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson, during which each student and faculty honoree is recognized in front of their guests, institution leaders, corporate sponsors and legislators.

In addition to the public recognition, a booklet will be published featuring photos and biographical sketches of each honoree.

Hanna, a President's List Scholar who holds a perfect 4.0 grade point average, plans to major in chemistry.

He has received several honors at EC, including the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Award, Frank M. Cross Chemistry Award and Secondary Education Award.

He also holds various positions of leadership in several campus organizations.

He serves as vice president for leadership of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and is co-president of the Baptist Student Union and Warrior Corps. In addition, he serves as secretary of the President's Council.

He is also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and served as vice president his freshman year. He also holds membership in the Environmental Club.

Hanna's involvement in campus activities also includes participation in athletics. He is a two-year member of the Warrior tennis team and was on the men's basketball squad his freshman season.

He is a 2011 honor graduate of Newton County Academy, where he was valedictorian and chosen for the Hall of Fame. He was also selected STAR Student and was named to the WTOK-TV All Scholastic Sports Team. Other honors include selection as a Scholar Athlete and Citizenship Award recipient, in addition to numerous subject awards.

Hanna also held positions of leadership in several clubs and organizations and received numerous awards in basketball and tennis.

He is a longtime member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 29 of the Choctaw Area Council in Union and received the rank of Eagle Scout in 2007.

In addition, he is a member

See HONOREES, page 14A

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WEEK OF March 16, 2013

instructor and adjunct faculty member. She is also a former biology and human anatomy instructor at Philadelphia High School and previously served as a science instructor at Mississippi State University and Kosciusko Middle School.

Hardy has received several other teaching honors while at EC, including her selection as Lamplighter instructor in 2010, an annual program that recognizes the state's outstanding community and junior college faculty members. She was also named to Who's Who Among Community College Instructors.

In addition to her teaching duties, Hardy serves as sponsor of the Sigma Sigma Mu Tau Medical Club.

Selected as East Central Community College's HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) Student and Instructor of the Year, respectively, are sophomore Andrew Hanna (left) of Union and biology instructor Kim Hardy of Philadelphia. They represented the two-year institution in Decatur at the annual program in Jackson. HEADWAE was established by the Mississippi Legislature to recognize the academically talented students and faculty members from each of the 36 public and private member institutions of the Mississippi Association of Colleges. (EC Photo)

She received several teaching honors prior to joining the EC faculty. She was the 1993 recipient of the Herbert M. Handley Outstanding Teacher Award presented by the Mississippi Science Teachers' Association. She also received the 1992 Science and Mathematics Teacher Award from the Mississippi State University Chapter of Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society.

A 1974 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Hardy received an associate's degree in dental hygiene from Meridian Community College in 1979, where she was graduated with highest honors and was chosen for Who's Who Among Students in American Community Colleges.

She continued her education at Mississippi State University in Starkville, where she received bachelor and master's degrees in biology in 1990 and 1991, respectively.

Her professional affiliations include membership in the Mississippi Science Teachers' Association.

She is married to Bobby Hardy and they reside in Philadelphia. She has a daughter, Mrs. Tommy Wayne (Leigh) McDaniel; two step-daughters, Mrs. Grant (Carmen) Ford and Deanna Hardy; and four grandchildren, Mason Payne, Brian, Pasiley Grace, and Hooper McDaniel.

Hardy's parents are Glois and Doris Daniels of Philadelphia.

Honorees

Continued from page 6A

of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur and serves as a Sunday school teacher.

Hanna is also involved in mission work and went to Thailand in the summer of 2012 as a part of a team that served missionaries of Southeast Asia for 10 days. He plans to return to the same area this summer and assist a missionary doctor in his clinics and teach English speaking classes.

He was one of 48 students selected from across the nation to attend the FBI National Academy Youth Leadership Program in 2008 at Quantico, VA. He was chosen president of the 11th Session of the FBINA Youth Leadership Program.

Hanna also participated in the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) program in 2009.

His parents are Rusty and Lanette Hanna of Union.

Hardy joined the EC faculty in the fall of 2005 after previously serving as an interim

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WEEK OF March 17, 2013

Newton County Educators attend ECCC Workshop

These area educators recently attended the annual High School Counselors' Workshop at East Central Community College in Decatur, where they were provided information on academic transfer, career-technical and healthcare programs, ACT testing, financial aid, scholarships, housing and admissions. Newton County counselors attending included (seated, from left) Deanna Rush, Union High School; Linda Giles, Newton County Career-Technical Center; and Melissa Flint, Newton County High School; and (standing, from left) Cille Norman, Newton High School; Betsy Ballou, Newton Career Center; and Brett Rigby (principal), Union High School. Also pictured is Ramonica Evans, ECCC Career Center Director/recruiter.

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

EC Players present

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

April 10 • 9 a.m. Matinee • $5

April 11–13 • 7 p.m. • $10

Vickers Fine Arts Center

For more information call 601-635-6215

East Central Community College

P.O. Box 129 • Decatur, MS 39327 • 1-877-462-3222 • www.eccc.edu

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WEEK OF April 21, 2013

ECCC visit

Winston County Officials Visit EC Campus

Winston County officials were luncheon guests of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees at the April 9, 2013, meeting held on the Decatur campus. The special campus visitors are shown with trustees from Winston Country following the meal. Seated from left are Purchasing Clerk Crystal Clark, Circuit Clerk Kim Ming, District Four Supervisor Gloria Turnipseed. District Five Supervisor Larry Duran, District Three Supervisor Mike Peterson and District Two Supervisor Luke Parkes. Standing from left are ECCC trustees Randal Livingston, Jerry Nance and Patsy Clark, all of Louisville, Leo Parker of Noxapater and Delane Hudson of Louisville; and Winston County Tax Collector-Assessor Larry Woodward. Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake and ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart expressed appreciation to the Winston County officials for their continuous support of the College. (EC Photo)

POSITION AVAILABLE

• Offensive Coordinator - Football

Deadline for Application
May 1, 2013
Date of Appointment
To Be Determined

For more information contact:
Chris Harris, Athletic Director
Ph# 601-635-6401
E-mail: charris@eccc.edu

Specific job requirements available at
www.eccc.edu/employment

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WEEK OF April 21, 2013

Relay for Life Saturday at ECCC

By Bill Graham
bgraham@newtoncountyappeal.com

Relay for Life organizers are planning to "Tune Out Cancer" when the annual benefit kicks off in Newton County Saturday at the ECCC walking track in Decatur.

The event, which benefits cancer research, begins at 10 a.m. and runs until 10 p.m.

Live entertainment, raffles, and a silent auction are on tap this year.

Scheduled to entertain the crowds are the Newton County Middle School choir, Southern Heritage Gospel group, the Pine Ridge Male Chorus, Whiskey Creek Band, Mark Spence, and Carol Smith.

Magnolia Dixie Chix and Roosters, a line dance team from Lake, will bring their own version of fun to the day.

Also out of Lake, "southern-fried" rock band Good Hope Goulash are scheduled to perform.

See Relay, 8A

Southern Heritage

Relay

From 1A

There will also be a silent auction, with prizes including a La-Z-Boy chair.

Raffle tickets will also be sold for an electric guitar donated by Ray and Kim Thompson, a computer rework donated by donated by Chris Craven, and a photo session donated by Hope Davis.

The luminaria ceremony is scheduled for 9 p.m. that evening.

Organizers have set their sights on raising $53,500 this year.

Last year, the event raised $51,082.08 to help fund cancer research.

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WEEK OF April 21, 2013

Scott County Officials Visit ECCC

Scott County officials were luncheon guests at the March 19, 2013, meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees held on the Decatur campus. The special campus visitors are shown with Board members from Scott County following the meal. Seated are (from left) Johnny Harrell, District Four Supervisor; Joe Rigby, Circuit Clerk; Lee Anne Livingston Palmer, Chancery Clerk; Kim Ervin, Comptroller; Myra Murrell-Davis, Tax Assessor/Collector; and Board of Trustees member Vernon Crotwell of Morton. Standing from left are Bruce McMillan, District Five Supervisor; Board of Trustees members Annie Stowers and Royce Shaw (secretary), both of Forest, Board Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake and Rebecca Farris of Morton; Steven Crotwell, District Three Supervisor; and Jackie L. Bradford, District One Supervisor. Dr. Hollingsworth and ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart expressed appreciation to the Scott County officials for their support of the College. (EC Photo)

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 28, 2013

Former East Central Community College women's basketball coach Sammy Pace (right) was inducted into the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame during the seventh annual ceremony held April 23 at the Muse Center on the Rankin County campus of Hinds Community College. ECCC President Billy Stewart is shown congratulating Coach Pace, who was among the 15 former community and junior college coaches and/or athletes selected for the prestigious honor. Pace led the Lady Warrior basketball program from 1985-2001, compiling a 279-157 overall mark. His 16-year career was highlight by an NJCAA Consolation Brackett Championship, two Region 23 crowns and several MACJC South Division Tournament titles. He is also a two-time recipient of NJCAA Region 23 and MACJC women's basketball coach of the year honors. A Scott County native, Pace was a standout basketball player at Lake High School and continued his success on the hardwood at East Central Community College. He was also a successful coach on the high school level and guided his Scott Central girls' team to the 1979 state championship. Pace also coached teams at Hickory, Sebastopol and Sumrall, compiling an overall 134-47 record.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 28, 2013

ECCC athletes raise money for Make-A-Wish

The East Central Community College Athletic Department has joined efforts with the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Mississippi to help Eden Smith's wish come true! Eden is the daughter of ECCC English instructor Lynne Smith, and has recently completed treatments for Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

ECCC coaches and athletes are selling bracelets provided by the Make-A-Wish Foundation as a fundraiser and 100 percent of the profit goes directly towards Eden's wish, which is a trip for her and her family to Hawaii to "swim with the dolphins."

Pictured are (seated, from left) LaJoya Griffin (softball) of Philadelphia, Kaylin Hopkins (softball) of Louisville, Haley Covert (soccer) of West Lauderdale and Heather Johnson (cheerleading) of Newton County; (second row, from left) head softball coach Kristin Chaney, Blake Edmonson (football) of Brandon, Terrance Steele (baseball) of Neshoba Central, Severino Signa (baseball) of Deer Creek, Ryan Artman (soccer) of Grenada, and Niya Hughes (women's basketball) of Forest; and (back row, from left) baseball head coach Neal Holliman, women's basketball head coach Crandal Porter, Kyron Samuels (football) of Fairhope (Ala.), football head coach Ken Karcher and men's soccer head coach Kenneth Thompson. For more information, contact ECCC Athletic Director Chris Harris at 601-635-6242 or e-mail charris@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

Lynne Smith said, "Eden's illness has been very traumatic for her and for us. We are overjoyed that she is now in remission and feeling well enough to take her trip from the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Her wish is to travel to Hawaii and swim with dolphins. The fact that ECCC Athletics wants to help her wish come true, truly warms my heart!"

The total cost of the trip, scheduled for June 30, 2013, is $5000 and the Athletic Department hopes to raise the entire amount before that time. The bracelets are $5 each and may be purchased from any ECCC athlete or coach.

For more information, contact ECCC Athletic Director Chris Harris at 601-635-6401. The e-mail address is charris@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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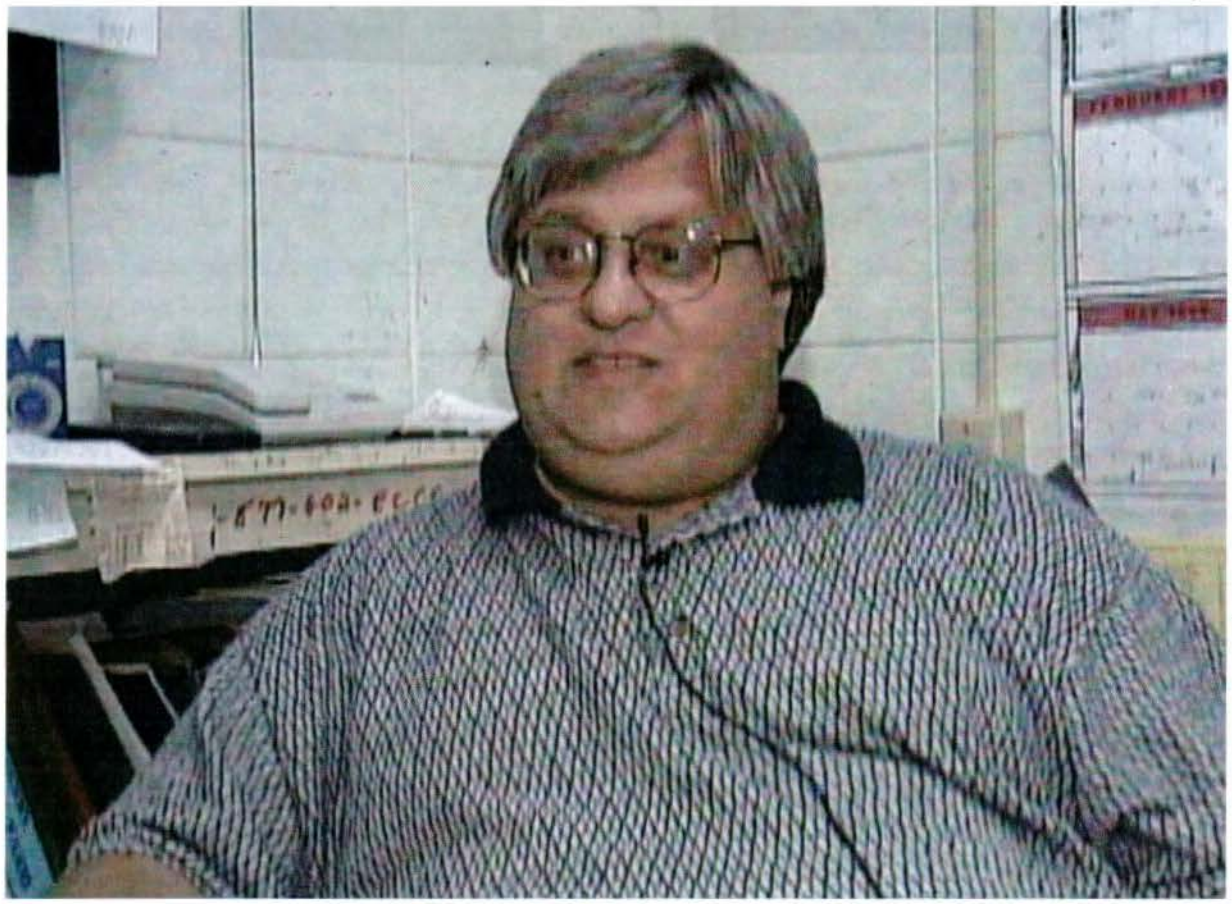
WEEK OF May 5, 2013

Carson Dies of Cancer Monday



Decatur, Miss.

A longtime former educator in this area has passed away after a months-long battle with cancer.

Tom Carson served as director of bands at East Central Community College for three decades. He passed away Monday morning.

Carson directed both the marching and concert bands, as well as The Collegians.

Carson was diagnosed with esophageal cancer in 2012 and retired from ECCC.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 5, 2013

Rush is ready for the next challenge

Guidance counselor leaves Union High School to work at ECCC

By Bill Graham
bgraham@newtoncountyappeal.com

"You're not going to find someone who loves Union High School more than I do," says Deanna Rush, the school's guidance counselor.

"I'm not unhappy — I'm not trying to get out of Union. But I also loved East Central, and know what a great thing it is for our community too. I really think it's where God wants me now."

Rush is leaving the counselor's office at Union to become the director of admissions at East Central Community College in Decatur.

For Rush, a Union native, it's the next step in a long career of helping students.

She was a young student at Union High School when she decided she wanted to be a guidance counselor.

"I used to tell Ms. Polly Gordon (the counselor) I was going to come take her place," she said, smiling. "And I did."

Rush has served as counselor at the high school for the past four years. She joined the district 13 years ago, working first as an English teacher, then as a counselor at the middle school.

"I loved teaching," Rush said. "But there was always something about counseling that appealed to me."

"A lot of kids have no guidance," she said. "They have no idea where to go for help, personally, or for college. They always seemed comfortable coming to me, even when I was in the classroom."

Making it count

Rush is known for teaching her students to focus on their long-term futures.

"Kids get so caught up today, in the moment," she said. "It's hard for teenagers to see past what's happening right now, whether it's peer pressure, or grades, or friends. High school is hard... and sometimes they can't see past that, so I always tell them 'if it's not eternal, it doesn't matter.'

"Just to try to shift the focus from how they're feeling right now," she said. "I want them to remember that for how they're dealing in their own lives, and also how they treat other people."

Making the change

"I wasn't really looking (for another job)," she said about applying for the position at ECCC. "It was brought to my attention several months ago. So I started praying that whatever God wanted me to do would work out. So every step along the way, it was clear that this is where God was pointing me."

"It'll be a challenge," she said of her new responsibilities. "Some aspects of the job will be similar to what I do now, as far as grades and enrollment, and transcripts. But there will be a lot of things that are different. Instead of working with the state Department of Education, I'll be working with the community college board."

Rush's first day at ECCC is June 1. She'll likely spend a couple of weeks transitioning as the school year ends at Union.

"I'm excited and nervous at the same time," she said, chuckling. "Parts of I think about and I get excited, but there are other parts I think about and get overwhelmed."

Rush is married and has three sons, ages 11, 8, and 2. The older kids go to school at Union, which means she'll be around, just not as a counselor.

"No matter where I am or what I'm doing, I want to be helping kids," she said.. "That's where my call is in life, no matter where it takes me."

"I'm not leaving Union," she said. "You might not see me every day, but I'll be here."

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CLARION-LEDGER

Deanna Rush

WEEK OF May 9, 2013

Thomas Williams Carson

UNION – Services for Thomas Williams Carson will be held Friday, at 11 a.m., in the sanctuary of Clark-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur, where he was a member, with Rev. Mark Vincent officiating. Burial will be in Decatur Cemetery with Milling Funeral Home of Union in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Carson, 57, passed away Monday, May 6, 2013, at Baptist Medical Center. The son of a U.S. diplomat, Tom was born in Porto Alegre, Brazil and later lived in Mexico, Spain and Italy. A 1973 graduate of Forrest Sherman High School in Naples, Italy, he continued his education at East Central Junior College in Decatur, where he received his associate's degree, was inducted into the Hall of Fame, and met his wife. He went on to attend Delta State University where he received his bachelor's and master's in music education. After graduation, he and Brenda worked at Parklane Academy for four years after which they both accepted positions at East Central Junior College. Returning to ECJC was like coming home for the Carsons, as they had both attended the school and fell in love while students there. In his first year at EC, Tom was Director of Bands with a total of 17 band members. He was a two-time secretary, vice president, and president of the Mississippi Community and Junior College Band Directors' Association. His past honors include ECCC Instructor of the Year, Lamplighter Participant, HEADWAE Instructor of the Year, and Humanities Instructor of the Year. In April of 2013, he was honored as Delta State University's Music Alumnus of the Year. Throughout his career, he saw the band program reach over 180 students. Tom wore many hats at East Central including director of the Wall O' Sound marching band, director of the Collegians, director of the jazz band, Spanish teacher, and Fine Arts Chair. Beside his love of music, his favorite part of being a band director was interaction with students. Carson loved students and accepted them for who they were. He believed that everyone had potential for great things in their own way. He met them where they were and gave them encouragement and sometimes a push when they needed it. In addition to his work at East Central, Tom was active in the community and with his church, and he served for one year as interim music director at Clarke-Venable. He retired from East Central in June of 2012 due to his continuing battle with esophageal cancer, but he returned part-time in October of 2012 as director of the Collegians. Throughout his lifetime, his wit, humor and smile served him well, even in times of pain and hurt. His personality was a shining light for everyone that came in contact with him. Most importantly, he loved his family very much and was so proud of all of the accomplishments of his wife and children while enjoying his newest title of "Granddaddy."

Survivors include his loving wife of 35 years, Brenda Branning Carson of Decatur; son, Christopher Carson and his wife Wendy and their daughters, Isabella and Fiona of Hattiesburg; daughter, Jennifer Carson and her fiancé Grayson Timidaiski, both of Hattiesburg; son, Jeremy Carson of Decatur; brother, Charles Carson and his wife Marsha of Colorado; brother, James Winston Carson and his wife Penny of Pennsylvania; brother, Peter of Conehatta; three nephews and two nieces; brother-in-law, Keith Branning and his wife Carol of Ridgeland; and mother-in-law, Frances Branning of Philadelphia.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Corinth Carson.

The family would like to thank Drs. Phillip Ley, Grace Shumaker, Mike McMullan, Margaret Wadsworth, and the staff of Mississippi Baptist Health Systems for their loving care of Tom throughout his illness.

Memorials may be made to Clarke-Venable Baptist Church, the East Central Community College Foundation, or to any organization that promotes cancer awareness.

Visitation will be today, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Clark-Venable Baptist Church.

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF May 29, 2013

Clayton retiring after 29 years

From school reports

A 29-year-career in education will come to a close for East Central Community College chemistry instructor Peggy Clayton when she retires following the 2013 spring term.

"It is hard to believe how many years have passed since I began teaching. Time does fly when you are having fun," she said.

When asked of her retirement plans, Clayton said, "I plan to garden with my husband, spend time with family, read and maybe remember how to sew, and relax without a stack of papers on the table waiting to be graded."

At East Central, Clayton teaches general chemistry, organic chemistry and the labs that go along with those courses.

Prior to her position at the college, Clayton served 20 years on the high school level where she taught chemistry, advanced placement chemistry and physics. She also served eight years as an adjunct instructor at Meridian Community College.

Clayton said a long-time love for science and a husband who worked in education made the decision to teach an easy one.

"Since I was in high school, I have always enjoyed science and was constantly explaining what I knew to some other student," Clayton said. "Years later, when I married my husband (Tom Clayton), who was then a teacher, teaching seemed the natural thing to do. I added the education courses to my chemistry degree and began to teach chemistry and physical science in high school."

Peggy Clayton

She said the highlights of her career have always been the successes of her students.

"There were those who found success in something as simple as learning to draw a graph or getting up in class to tell about their experiment. I've also had contest winners, science fair participants and scholarship winners. Many were at the top of their classes, some near the bottom, but all came somewhat closer to that knowledge of how the natural world works because of the experiences we shared in science classes," Clayton said.

Clayton has been named to the MEC STAR Teacher Hall of Fame, awarded to those who have been named STAR Teacher for 10 years. She was also named Outstanding Teacher for the Mississippi Association of Physics Teachers and Mississippi American Chemical Society Outstanding Teacher. At East Central, she was named an ECCC Lamplighter in 2007, which honors outstanding community and junior college instructors, and was selected HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) Instructor of the Year in 2008.

Clayton and her husband, Tom, have been married for almost 39 years and are members of Highland Baptist Church, where they both serve as Sunday school teachers. They have three grown and married sons: Sean (Erica), Jason (Danielle) and Adam (Brenda); and six grandchildren: Kaitlyn, Nolan, Madelyn, Liam, Averie and Logan.

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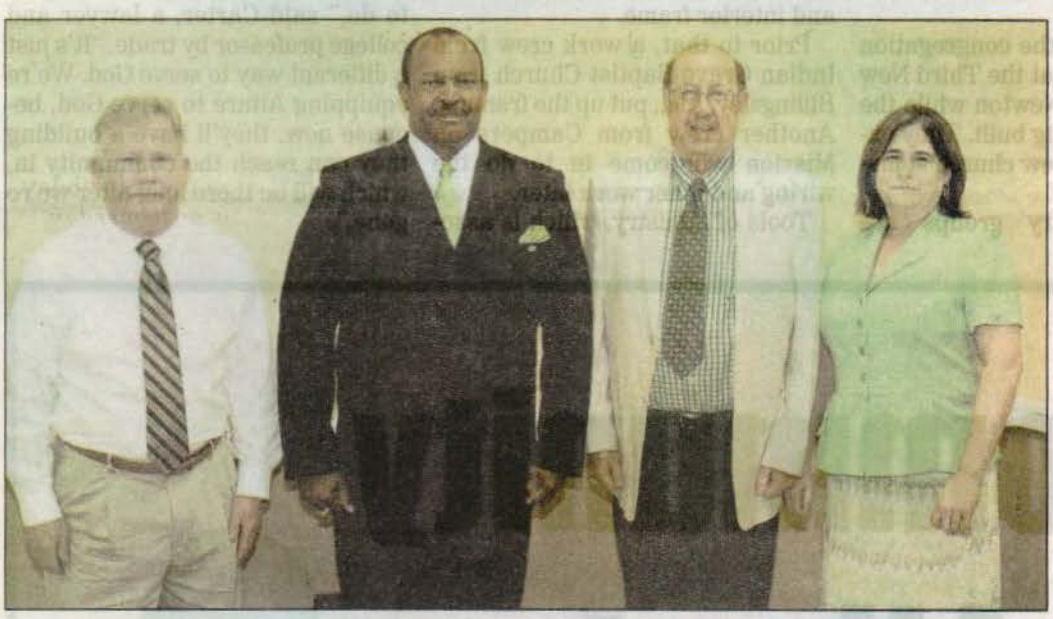
WEEK OF June 19, 2013

ECCC retirees honored



These East Central Community College retirees received special recognition during the College's annual end-of-the-year luncheon recently.From left are William (Billy) Miles of Morton, physics instructor; Frederick Lyons of Decatur, carpentry and cabinetmaking instructor; Len Bobo of Union, music keyboard instructor; and Peggy Clayton of Meridian, chemistry instructor. Miles completed 35 total years in education, the last 11 at ECCC. Lyons has been employed at the college since 1988 and spent his entire teaching career at East Central. Bobo began his tenure at the College as concert choir director in 2002, and began his teaching career in 1975. Clayton has been an instructor at the college since 2004 and completed 29 years of service in education.

EC photo

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WEEK OF June 19, 2013

Vickers autographs book

Retired East Central Community College English instructor Ovid Vickers autographs a copy of his book, "The East Central I Knew: A History of East Central Community College," during a book signing held Sunday, June 2, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center lobby on the Decatur campus. Prior to signing approximately 150 books during the special event, Vickers entertained the large crowd in attendance with his humor and remembrances of his 40-plus years as a faculty member during a presentation in the auditorium. Copies of the book are available for $24.95 plus tax and can be purchased by contacting Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth in the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601.635.6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her email address is sholling@eccc.edu. Net proceeds from book sales are designated for the EC Foundation. (EC Photo)

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Sutphin receives first copy

Former East Central Community College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left) receives the first copy of "The East Central I Knew: A History of East Central Community College" from author Ovid Vickers during a special program held Sunday, June 2, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Dr. Sutphin asked Vickers to pen the book prior to Sutphin's retirement as the College's seventh president on June 30, 2012. Vickers, a longtime English instructor, noted author and folklorist, earlier entertained the large crowd in attendance with his humor and remembrances of his 40-plus years as a faculty member. Vickers signed approximately 150 copies of the book during a reception held in the Fine Arts lobby. (EC Photo)

WEEK OF June 19, 2013

www.meridianstar.com

ECCC receives $92,000 MDOT grant for campus improvements

Special to The Star

DECATUR – Several improvements will soon be made on the East Central Community College campus as a result of a $92,000 Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) grant presented last week by Central Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall.

Commissioner Hall "officially" presented the grant check to ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart during the June meeting of the College's Board of Trustees.

"We are pleased to be part of a project that is a key component in creating safe and easy pedestrian access to several areas on the Decatur campus and the town of Decatur," Hall said during the presentation. "The grant will be an invaluable investment for East Central students and the town of Decatur for years to come."

Dr. Stewart said the college is "most appreciative" to Hall for coming to campus and personally presenting the $92,000 grant check, and looks forward to completion of the much-needed project.

"I am excited about the work that will be accomplished through these funds, which will improve the personal safety of pedestrians in transit while providing access for those with disabilities," Stewart said. "We appreciate Commissioner Hall's support of the project and cannot thank him enough for his assistance. The college is fortunate to have a great friend and supporter in Commissioner Dick Hall."

The Mississippi Transportation Commission approved the college's request for up to $92,000 in Federal Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funds at its April 23 meeting. The funds, along with a required 20 percent local match, comprise the total cost of the project.

The TAP program works with local public agencies such as municipalities and community college districts to construct, plan and design facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized forms of transportation.

Stewart expressed appreciation to EC staff members in compiling information for the grant request and to local legislators for their support and assistance.

"I would be remiss if I did not thank Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth (executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations) and Mr. Artie Foreman (director of the Physical Plant) for their hard work on this project," he said. "They were instrumental in the success of our grant application. They worked extremely hard to coordinate and prepare an application that would 'put our best foot forward' and they deserve much credit for the success of the application. They will also be involved in the implementation of the project.

"I also want to recognize the assistance of our legislative delegation throughout the application process. Scott Bounds, Randy Rushing, Giles Ward, Michael Evans, Tom Miles, Terry Burton and Ferr Smith were enthusiastic supporters of this project. I believe their help was also instrumental in the success of our grant application and they deserve a big thank you from the college!"

The project includes construction of the following: a five-foot sidewalk west of Decatur United Methodist Church and east of EC's South Campus facilities to the parking lot of Barber Hall; an adjoining five-foot sidewalk parallel to West Broad Street (in front of Ethridge Hall and the Decatur Public Library) to the corner of South Seventh Avenue; an adjoining five-foot sidewalk parallel to South Seventh Avenue (west of Ethridge Hall and the Rives Education Building); and replacement of the stairs adjacent to the Rives Educational Building.

The project is comprised of 859 feet of sidewalk space with handicap accessible curbing located at the Barber Hall parking lot and at South Seventh Avenue. Twelve pedestrian-scale lights will be installed along the sidewalks for safety purposes with added landscaping to beautify the area. Cross walk thermo-plastic stripping will be applied to West Broad Street cross walk and to the South Avenue Seventh Avenue cross walk.

Stewart stated work on the project is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2013 with estimated completion during the spring of 2014.

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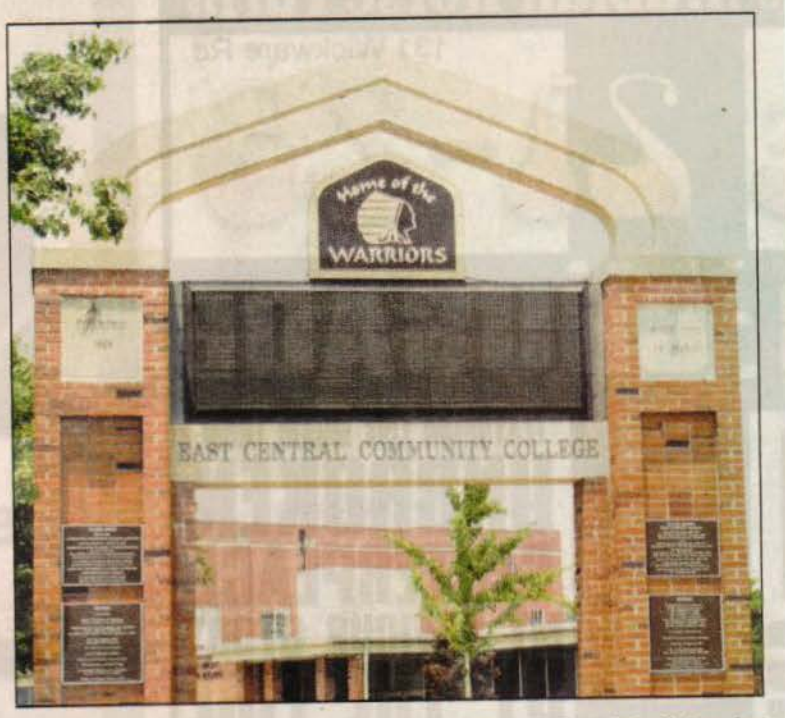
Buildings / Programs

WEEK OF June 19, 2013

EC plans campus improvements

From school reports



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College Board OKs tuition increase at East Central CC
Page 4A

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WEEK OF June 7th, 2013

EC names Davis, Selman

From school reports

Patti Davis, biology instructor, and Lynn Selman, support services math instructor, were recently selected Academic and Career-Technical Instructors of the Year, respectively, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Davis, a Decatur resident, said she has always had a love for science, which eventually led to her career as a science instructor.

"Teaching science has been a way for me to share my love of science with others," Davis said. "Teaching seemed a great way to do that and to be able to work with people."

"I was very surprised and humbled when I received notification that I had been selected. I truly appreciate the honor," she said of being selected for the highest academic

away in 2006."

Ron Davis was also a science instructor for ECCC and served as science division chair before his death. The Davis' have one son, Matthew, who also attended East Central Community College and works as design engineer in Jackson.

In addition to her family connection to the college, Patti Davis said she enjoys working for EC.

"East Central is a great place to work," she said. "I know I am able to work with the best students, faculty, and staff anywhere."

Davis earned an associate of science degree from East Central Junior College, a bachelor of science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a master's in education degree from Mississippi State University, as well as addition post master's

Thankfully, I have been influenced by other great teachers who set models of what a teacher should be."

"I am deeply honored and grateful to those who nominated me," Selman said of receiving the top instructor honor.

Crediting the people who influenced her life for her career success, Selman said she was fortunate to have role models in great teachers throughout her education and her family.

"My high school science teacher set the stage for setting high standards and expecting excellence without sacrificing the content," Selman said. "I experienced this again in college, as my mother was my advisor and primary instructor. Her passion for teaching and love of math poured out in her work. I take great pride in coming from a family of educators. I am a

lifesaving care by doctors at the emergency room of the Choctaw Health Center on the reservation of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians in Neshoba County. The Choctaw Health Center operated under rules of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Indian Health Service.

Tiara Clemons eventually was transferred to a Jackson hospital where she and the unborn child died.

The government admitted, in court documents, that the care that should have been provided.

The government said the breaches of the standard of care were the proximate cause of the deaths of Tiara Clemons and her child.

With that admission, the case turned to the issue of economic and non-economic damages. Punitive damages are disallowed in the federal courts.

In an Oct. 30, 2012, ruling, Reeves awarded $5.45 million in noneconomic damages and

both sides to address the question of Mississippi's tort limits.

Mississippi's $1 million cap on noneconomic damages applies to what a jury can award someone for such things as pain and suffering. The limits on damages were adopted by Mississippi lawmakers after years of contentious wrangling.

Noneconomic damages under Mississippi law do not include punitive damages. There is no cap on damages for economic losses, such as how much the person could have ex-

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instructors of the year

East Central Community College faculty members Patti Davis (left) and Lynn Selman, both of Decatur, received "Instructor of the Year" honors for 2012-13 during the College's end-of-the-year luncheon. Davis, a member of the science faculty, was named "Academic Instructor of the Year." She joined the staff in 1994. Selman, who teaches special populations mathematics, was chosen "Workforce Education Instructor of the Year." She began her employment in 2003.

ments," Selman said. "Every day is different and no matter how long I have taught, I learn something new every year. I love meeting new faces and helping people. The simple things are what matters. Seeing students as they 'get' the different concepts is always exciting.

"One of the greatest rewards is seeing students walk across the stage to receive their diploma. I love seeing people excel and conquer things they weren't sure they could."

Selman said she was never cut out for a "desk job."

"I knew I loved working with people and couldn't sit still for a desk job. I couldn't ask for a better match career-wise," she said of her teaching career.

As a student at William Carey College, Selman received the Student Teacher of the Year award.

"This was a great encouragement and validated my career choice," she said. "It challenges me to always give my best."

Prior to working at ECCC, she worked at Petal High School as a math instructor.

"My husband's job as a student minister brought us to Decatur," Selman said. "I was not ready to leave the high school setting, but we moved knowing God had led us here. I have served as the Support Services Mathematics Instructor at East Central for 10 years now. I have found a new family of coworkers and continue to grow in my new ministry field. Teaching is really my chance to impact others for Christ. It is all about loving others and encouraging them to give their best in all things."

A graduate of William Carey College, Selman earned her bachelor of science degree in mathematics in 1996 and completed her master's in education degree in math education in 1997.

Selman and her husband, Shaun, have three children, Kiersten (11), Keenan (8), and Kenton "Kent" (6).

WEEK OF June 26, 2013

EC names Davis, Selman

From school reports

Patti Davis, biology instructor, and Lynn Selman, support services math instructor, were recently selected Academic and Career-Technical Instructors of the Year, respectively, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

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"Teaching science has been a way for me to share my love of science with others," Davis said. "Teaching seemed a great way to do that and to be able to work with people."

"I was very surprised and humbled when I received notification that I had been selected. I truly appreciate the honor," she said of being selected for the highest academic teaching honor at the College.

Davis currently teaches microbiology and in the past has also taught Biology I and Biology II and Anatomy and Physiology I and II on the Decatur campus.

In addition to her on-campus instruction, Davis has also taught Biology courses online since ECCC began offering eLearning courses.

While at East Central, Davis has served as state vice president and president of the Mississippi Association of Biologists. She is currently serving as a state vice president in Kappa Kappa Iota — a teaching organization.

Also at East Central, she has been named a lamplighter, established the East Central Bluebird Trail and sponsors Sigma Sigma Mu Tau — the college's medical club.

Davis said ECCC has always been a special place to her and her family.

"I met my husband, Ron Davis when we were both students at East Central," Davis away in 2006."

Ron Davis was also a science instructor for ECCC and served as science division chair before his death. The Davis' have one son, Matthew, who also attended East Central Community College and works as design engineer in Jackson.

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"East Central is a great place to work," she said. "I know I am able to work with the best students, faculty, and staff anywhere."

Davis earned an associate of science degree from East Central Junior College, a bachelor of science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a master's in education degree from Mississippi State University, as well as addition post master's coursework at MSU.

In Davis' spare time, she has been involved in gifted education, planned and directed beauty pageants, planned and directed competitions between schools, served as a team leader and served as a system-wide science chairman.

Selman, of Decatur, said it was her experiences as a student that drives her to be the teacher she is today.

"I attended many different schools as a child. I wouldn't trade the great experiences and difficulties that sometimes brings," Selman said. "I still remember and often share a particular story with my students each year. I had transferred in the middle of a school year. I approached my (algebra) teacher and asked for help with something. She told me she didn't have time because she had a class to teach. That one comment pretty much drives my approach to teaching. I love to encourage students and take time to really

Thankfully, I have been influenced by other great teachers who set models of what a teacher should be."

"I am deeply honored and grateful to those who nominated me," Selman said of receiving the top instructor honor.

Crediting the people who influenced her life for her career success, Selman said she was fortunate to have role models in great teachers throughout her education and her family.

"My high school science teacher set the stage for setting high standards and expecting excellence without sacrificing the content," Selman said. "I experienced this again in college, as my mother was my advisor and primary instructor. Her passion for teaching and love of math poured out in her work. I take great pride in coming from a family of educators. I am a third-generation math teacher and most of my siblings teach in the same field."

Selman began as a support services mathematics instructor at ECCC in 2003.

As a support services mathematics instructor, Selman said her primary goal is to help students "to and through" college algebra, which sometimes includes the classes beginning and intermediate algebra along the way.

"Students come as their schedule allows and bring questions of all kinds," Selman said. "Through the years it has morphed into a few additional things. I have helped with other classes such as applied business math, accounting and food and beverage control."

Selman said she even assists nursing students as they are tackling dosage calculations during the fall semester each year.

Selman said she enjoys the interaction with students and assisting them with bettering

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January 26, 2013

ECCC looks down the road

From staff reports

East Central Community College is looking at its long-term future by seeking recommendations from the public during a series of forums this month.

EC President Billy W. Stewart said information gleaned from the forums will help the college in its strategic planning process called 20/20 Vision.

"It would be a good plan if just the students and teachers were involved," Stewart said. "But getting the community involved will make it that much better."

The college is targeting five areas: community partnerships, communication, resource planning and development, student success, and teaching and learning.

Stewart said the term 20/20 Vision is used "to provide a clear picture of where we are headed and what we want to achieve by the year 2020. So far, this process has included a review of the college's mission and core values in order to solidify institutional commitments necessary to achieve our vision."

Stewart said the college will start sifting through the recommendations at the end of January. The final report, which will serve as the college's "road map" for the next eight to 10 years, will be issued in late March or early April, he said.

The first forum was held Jan. 15 at the Newton Depot, and the second was held in Louisville on Jan. 16.

Three more forums are scheduled this month: Jan. 23 at the Scott County Courthouse in Forest; Jan. 28 at the Philadelphia Depot in Philadelphia, and Jan. 29 at the Carthage Chamber of Commerce in Carthage. The forums run from 11 a.m. t p.m. and refreshments will served.

Vicki Blaylock, ECCC's choral/vocal director, and Roger Whitlock, the college's dean of Workforce Developme speak to retired educator Elton Wall and Decatur alderman Sid Etie at a forum in Newton Jan. 15.

Bill Graham/The App

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WEEK OF July 10, 2013

ECCC raises funds for 'Swim with Dolphins'

Eden Smith's "Make-A-Wish" trip to Hawaii where she plans to swim with dolphins will become a reality thanks to fundraising efforts led by coaches and student-athletes at East Central Community College in Decatur. Approximately $2,000 was raised to help send the young cancer victim and her family on her "dream vacation." Athletic Director Chris Harris is shown making the presentation to Eden's mother, Lynne Smith, an ECCC English instructor and Quitman resident. Bracelets with the inscription "Share the Power of a Wish" were provided by the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Mississippi and sold for $5 each with all proceeds designated for 10-year-old Eden (shown in photos in background) who recently completed treatments for Hodgkin's Lymphoma at St. Jude's Hospital in Memphis. "Eden's illness has been very traumatic for her and for us," said Smith. "We are overjoyed that she is now in remission and feeling well enough to fulfill her wish of traveling to Hawaii and swimming with the dolphins!" The trip is planned for July 2013. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 10, 2013

Neshoba officials visit ECCC

Neshoba County officials were luncheon guests of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees prior to the trustees' June 11 meeting on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are County Administrator Benji Coats; District 1 Supervisor Keith Lillis; District 3 Supervisor Kinsey Smith; District 4 Supervisor Marty Sistrunk; and Tax Assessor/Collector Mike Lewis. Standing from left are Chancery Clerk Guy Nowell; and Neshoba County trustees David Byars, Jerry W. Smith (vice chairman) and Ricky Goldman, all of Philadelphia. Circuit Clerk Patti Duncan Lee also attended the luncheon. Other trustees from Neshoba County include Prentice Copeland and Neshoba County Supt. of Education Tommy Dearing, both of Philadelphia; and Edsel Cliburn of Union. Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth and EC President Dr. Billy Stewart expressed appreciation to the Neshoba County officials for their continuous support of the College. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 18, 2013

• DECATUR – Tina Sanders of Little Rock was recently selected coordinator/choreographer for the East Central Community College Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall 'O Sound Marching Band, announced Hunter Corhern, director of bands.

Sanders

Sanders previously served as dance teacher at Beverly's School of Dance in Brandon and Pearl. She is also a former professional dancer, ballroom dancer and gymnastics coach.

A Pennsylvania native, Sanders is a 2000 honors graduate of Downingtown (PA) Area High School.

She is married to ECCC alumnus and former Collegians member Josh Sanders. They have a daughter, Ava Sanders.

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WEEK OF July 10, 2013

Deanna Rush named new director of admissions and records at ECCC

Deanna Bankston Rush of Union was recently selected Director of Admissions and Records at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced EC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Rush, who began her new duties on June 1, 2013, was previously employed by the Union Public School District and served as guidance counselor since 2006. She was an English instructor from 2001-2006. She began her education career as an English instructor for the Clinton Public School District, serving from 2000-2001.

Rush received several honors while employed at Union High School, including District Staff Person of the Year in 2011 and STAR Teacher in 2006.

She is a member of First Baptist Church of Union, where she serves as church clerk and Youth Girls' Sunday School Teacher.

She is also a member of Chi Sigma Iota and is a National Board Certified Counselor.

Rush is a 1996 honor graduate of Union High School, where she received various honors, including being named Salutatorian and a member of the UHS Hall of Fame. She continued her education at ECCC where she earned a perfect 4.0 grade point average and received an Associate of Arts degree in 1998. She was a recipient of several honors at EC, including her selection to the 1998 ECCC Hall of Fame.

Deanna Rush

She was a Summa Cum Laude graduate at Mississippi State University, where she also maintained a 4.0 grade point average and received a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education – English in May 2000. She received a Master of Science in Counselor Education from MSU in May 2005, again achieving a 4.0 GPA.

While at MSU, Rush was recognized as a Distinguished President's Scholar.

She is married to Hugh Rush and they have three children: Chandler, eleven; Bankston, eight; and Luke, two.

Rush is the daughter of Kenny Joe and Lisa Bankston of Union.

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WEEK OF July 22, 2013

EAST CENTRAL CC

New director begins work in Decatur

Lucretia Williams of Lena was recently selected director of Workforce Development at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Lucretia Williams

Williams, who began her new duties in May 2013, previously served as personal development specialist. She began working at EC in 2005 as WIN Job Center Education and Training coordinator.

Williams also served two years as human resources supervisor at Hi-San Inc., in Carthage, human resources assistant at Koch Foods and executive assistant/recruiting specialist at B.C. Rogers Food Service, both located in Morton.

She has bachelor's and master's degrees in Workforce Education from Mississippi State University in Starkville, where she is enrolled in the Community College Leadership Doctoral program.

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WEEK OF July 4, 2013

No tax hike in ECCC budget

Tuition will increase $50 per semester

By Bill Graham
bgraham@newtoncountyappeal.com

East Central Community College students will see a slight tuition hike when they return to school for the fall semester, but Newton County taxpayers won't see a tax increase, EC President Billy Stewart told county supervisors Thursday.

Stewart

Tuition will rise $50 per semester from $940 to $990. Fees for part-time students will also go up, from $90 to $95 per credit hour. Cost for meals also rises, from $765 to $790 for a five-day plan, and from $920 to $970 for a seven-day meal ticket.

All other fees will remain the same for the 2013-14 school year.

Like other community colleges in Mississippi, enrollment at ECCC dipped last year, Stewart said.

The college saw an enrollment of 2,320 students last year spring, according to the report Stewart delivered to the county.

See ECCC, 8A

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WEEK OF July 24, 2013

Riley changes posts at ECCC

Matthew Riley of Walnut Grove was recently selected Personal Development Specialist/Site Coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Billy Stewart.

Riley, who began his new duties on July 1 previously served the college as Community Based Job Training Grant Coordinator, a position held since 2010.

In his new position, Riley is assigned to coordinate day-to-day activities of the ECCC Career Advancement Center (CAC) in Carthage.

He also owns Riley Consulting Group of Walnut Grove.

A Leake County native, Riley is a 1991 graduate of South

Leake High School and a 1993 graduate of ECCC. He received a bachelor's degree in sociology from Mississippi Valley State University in 1995.

He was a standout basketball player at all three schools and helped lead South Leake and ECCC squads to state championships.

He is currently enrolled in the Masters of Educational Technology program at Liberty University.

Riley is a member of New Friendship M.B. Church, where he serves as associate minister. He is also an active member of the Leake County community, serving as a motivational speaker and mentor to young men.

He is married to the former Marie Cherry of Columbia. They have two children, Kymberlie and Matthew.

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WEEK OF July 8 2013

Anderson switches roles at EC

Candy Anderson was recently named Community Based Job Training Grant Coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Billy Stewart.

Anderson, who began her new duties on July 1, previously served the college as Certified Nursing Assistant (CAN) Grant Navigator, a position held since 2010.

A 1991 graduate of Warren Central High School, Anderson received an Associate Degree in Nursing in 1994 from Hinds Community College in Raymond. She received an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts from ECCC in 2012 and the same year earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, graduating Magna Cum Laude.

She is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Nurse Education from William Carey University in Hattiesburg.

Anderson and her husband Steven have three children — Cole, Payton and Madalyn.

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WEEK OF July 31, 2013

7/31/2013 6:00:00 AM

Vickers keeps memories alive with words

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Sports Editor

Ovid Vickers

Ovid Vickers has been a Neshoba County Fairgoer and observer for 58 years.

The long-time East Central Community College English instructor, now retired, has written many articles about the Fair and made observations.

He is a columnist for The Fair Times, a daily paper distributed on the Fairgrounds.

He sums up his definition of the Fair as follows:

"What is most interesting about the Fair is that no day is the same at the Fair," Vickers said. "Different people come to visit. Unexpected events take place. It's all part of the Fair.

"The Fair stays dormant for 51 weeks of the year. But for one week, it is very much alive and has a spirit all of its own. People grow up going to the Fair and then move away. But like when bears know when it is time to hibernate, they seem to migrate back to the Fair almost every year," Vickers said.

Vickers has been coming to the Neshoba County Fair since he first moved to Decatur and started teaching at East Central Community College in 1955. He only planned to stay one year but fell in love with Mississippi life and never left. He met his bride here, a Neshoba County girl named Carol.

In 1982 when an opening came, he built his own cabin 334-D. But after all this time, he still calls himself a "newcomer" to Fair life. He saves his memories of each Fair year in a scrapbook.

Vickers is as much a writer as he is a teacher and has composed hundreds of columns and articles that appeared in The Neshoba Democrat, the Union Appeal and The Scott County Times. But he stopped writing his weekly column a while back.

"I love to write and have since I was a student," Vickers said. "My eyesight is failing now. I quit writing the column but I still write. My fingers know the keys on the keyboard and Carol is my proof reader."

Earlier this summer, he published a book on the history of ECCC, titled: "The East Central I Knew: A History of East Central Community College."

"East Central Community College became a college in 1928," Vickers said. "When I first came in 1955, some of the original faculty was still here.

"When I started as a teacher, there were about 800 people on campus and everyone knew everyone," Vickers said. "Most of the faculty lived on campus. Very few students even had cars then, and today, parking is a problem."

Vickers noted many changes over the years. For example, nobody takes shorthand anymore. The college, which grew out of an agriculture school, no longer has an agriculture program. And does anybody even know what a slide rule is anymore, or how to use one?

In his book about ECCC, Vickers talks about such longtime faculty as Mrs. Stelle Newsome, who taught home economics; Mrs. Janice Sullivan, who taught education; and, Mr. Frank Cross who taught chemistry.

"East Central has had some outstanding teachers over the years," Vickers said. "This book covers the history from the beginning in 1928 through today."

When he finished writing his book, he gave the transcript to the college foundation which published it. All proceeds went to the college.

Vickers said there were around 40 copies still available for sale.

In addition to writing, Vickers enjoys traveling. He has been to Europe 14 times and last year visited St. Petersburg, Russia.

"I love to go," he said.

Vickers still writes for the East Central publication, "The Warrior."

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WEEK OF AUG. 11 2013

Evans named East Central Collegians d

Chas Evans is a recent addition to the music faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Evans will serve as guitar/music instructor and director of the Collegians – the College's rock 'n' roll group.

The ECCC alumnus is a former member of the popular group, led for 31 years by Thomas W. Carson who recently lost his battle to cancer.

Evans said he hopes to continue the tradition of "music excellence" as established by Carson during his distinguished career as EC's Director of Bands.

"Mr. Carson lit up the lives in this community with his love of music," said Evans." I hope to pass along the spark that he lit in me to future generations of aspiring musicians."

Chas Evans

Evans, a Chunky native, brings several years of teaching experience to his new position.

He began his teaching career as a guitar instructor at Mississippi Music stores in Meridian and Hattiesburg, serving from Sept. 1998 to August 2003.

During this time, he also taught guitar classes at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit, from August 2002 to May 2003.

He served as guitar and music theory instructor at Holmes Community College in Goodman, from January 2003 to December 2006.

He mostly recently served as guitar instructor for Selah Music Instruction in Flowood from April 2012 to May 2013.

In addition to his teaching career, Evans is an award-winning performer. H first place award Mississippi Mu Association Guitar and finished runn 2000 Pine B Symposium.

He has also pe member of the Guitar Quartet and on the grou "Soundscapes," wh lished through Cen

In 2006, Evans tet performed vario from their "Sounds at Carnegie Hall i City.

Evans has also as a guest jud

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WEEK OF AUG. 11, 2013

EAST CENTRAL CC

Anderson named grant coordinator

Candy Anderson recently was named Community Based Job Training Grant coordinator at East Central Community College.

Anderson, who began her new duties July 1, previously served the college as certified nursing assistant grant navigator.

Anderson has an associate degree in nursing from Hinds Community College in Raymond, an associate degree in liberal arts from ECCC and a bachelor's in nursing from Mississippi University for Women.

She is pursuing a master's in nurse education from William Carey University.

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WEEK OF 8-12-13

ECCC presents $71K in

Attending East Central Community College became more affordable for approximately 130 students who received scholarships presented at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held earlier this summer on the Decatur campus.

Provided by numerous alumni, individuals, businesses and industries, the ECCC Foundation scholarships are valued at $71,340, according to Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

"The ECCC Foundation would like to thank our donors who continue to support the scholarship program," said Hollingsworth. "We also encourage others to establish scholarships and help meet the financial needs of our future alumni."

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart provided remarks at the annual event and expressed appreciation to donors for their support and congratulations to scholarship recipients.

Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services, served as master of ceremonies.

Scholarships presented and the respective recipients/high schools are as follows:

Albert F. and Fannie Mae Hollingsworth - Samantha Adams, Lake; Mississippi Land Bank – Zachary Allen, Winston Academy; Willis E. Blum and Frances Gaines Blum Slagle Memorial – Aaren Avera, Newton County; Taylor Advanced Welding – Hansel Bell, Nanih Waiya; La-Z-Boy – Glenn Bender, Jr., Newton and Tyler Spence, Newton County; Cox and Associates Insurance- Kaitlyn Blanton, Leake Academy and Emily Cook, Leake Central; BankPlus – Emily Bounds, Newton County Academy and Aaron Brown, Newton County; Sam Rush Memorial – Kristy Bradley and Dakota Wright, both of Neshoba Central; Andrew Wilson Lathem – Jonathan Brown, Leake Central; ECCC Board of Trustees – Alexander Bucklew, Winston Academy; JC White – Lauren Cantey, West Lauderdale; MS Association of Supervisors (Newton County) Nicole Carter, Alana Kron and Tabitha LaBue, all of Newton County; Frances Aycock Johnson and JoAnn Aycock Thomas – Dustie Chisolm, Sylva-Bay Academy; MS Association of Supervisors (Neshoba County) – Hunter Coley, Caleb McCown and Hannah Pilgrim, all of Neshoba Central; Captain Charles E. Ward USN/RET Memorial – Noah Corcoran, Winston Academy; Dr. Austin P. Boggan – James Cornelison, Morton; Prentice and Dorothy Copeland – Ashley Cumberland, Neshoba Central; Ben Myers Memorial – Elizabeth Curran, Philadelphia and Allison Johnson, Neshoba Central; Pleas Clayton and Amanda Breazeale Blount – Sam Davis, Leake Academy; Taylor Advanced Welding – Harley Dennis, Neshoba Central; ATCO Loans, Inc., - Kesicia Dickinson, Leake County; East Central Scholars (EC Alumni Association) – Alec Doggett, Leake Central; James E. Land – Courtney Elliott, Union; MS Association of Supervisors (Leake County) – Kristen Evans, Leake Academy and Emily Cook and Raney Morgan, both of Leake Central; Kinoth and Ella Mae Thornton/Emerson Electric – Katy Ezelle, Newton County; Jeffrey G. and Kathy L. Hitt Memorial – Dominick Fields, Forest; William Wade Long Memorial – Julian Fuentes, Newton County; Jack and Mary Jo White – Mackenzie Gannon, Newton County; MS Association of Supervisors (Scott County) – Whitney Garrett, Lake; Bailey Easterling, Scott Central; and Kimberly Harrison, Forest; Dr. Frank and Bobbie McPhail Bowen – Anna Girling, Leake Central; T. T. Beemon – Danielle Gregory, Newton County; Dan Harrison Memorial – Stafford Griffin, Leake Central; Russell McCann Memorial – Jennifer Grove, East Rankin Academy; AT&T – Delton Harrison, Newton County; Citizens Bank of Philadelphia - Lacye Harrison, Newton County; Regina Gail Gibbs Rigby Memorial – Kimberly Harrison, Forest; Ernest Harrison Boswell Memorial – Byron Hathorn, Louisville; MS Automotive Manufacturers Association – Wesley Hines, Lake and Cody Smith, Leake Central; Nellie Neill Cross Memorial –Jonathon Hodge, Lake; Hudspeth – Clayborne Holdiness, Nanih Waiya; Kyle Dunkerson Memorial – Shelby Horn, Newton County; MS Association of Supervisors (Winston County) – Cara Jackson, Jessica Richardson and Warner Parkes, all of Nanih Waiya; Warrior Golf Classic Alumni Association – Kristine Jenkins, Forest and Makenzie Rowzee, Newton County; Jacob Stovall Memorial – Myeisha Jones, Philadelphia; Jones and Carrie Williamson and Bascom and Hattie Chisolm Memorial – Sherry Nash, Leake Central; U.S. Electrical Motors – Bethany Jones, Leake Academy; Dr. Beverly Oliphant-Martin and John E. Martin – Makayla Kelly, Nederland; Weems Family – Rachel Laird – Homeschool;

Taylor Advanced Machining – John Lipsey, Nanih Waiya; Shirley Renaud Memorial – Jenna Lovorn, Winston Academy; Jessica Cager Memorial – Victoria Malone, Union; Willis W. "Bubba" Smith Memorial – Houston Martin, Newton County; Polk and Jennie Pace – Dylan Mayes, Lake; Clyde B. and Flossie H. Goodson – Walter McCool, Neshoba Central; Thomas Rudolph Mayes Memorial – Shelby McKelvaine, Enterprise; Jay B. and Frances Harris Smith – Justin Moore, Leake Academy; Dr. L. B. and Dixie Adkins – Joshua Parker, McComb; Hubert D. Gilmore – Trystan Parker, Newton County; Larry B. Therrell Memorial – Hannah Peoples, Leake Academy; Mable Moore Carr Educational – Lauren Peterson, Forest; W. R. Covington – Haley Pierce, Noxapater; Ruth Round Volunteer – Chelsea Pilgrim, Newton County; Charles and Judy Dowdle Thomas – Sabrina Prince, Philadelphia; Newton Rotary Club – Abbey Rigdon, Union and John Reiss, Newton County Academy; Lavern and Elizabeth Vowell Memorial – Ephraim Ringo, Forest; Charles P. and Bonnie Saxon Phillips – Darrin Rolison,

scholarships

Newton County; Harrison Memorial – Makenzie Rowzee, Lacye Harrison and Delton Harrison, all of Newton County; Wilks-Palmer Scholars – Brooke Smith, Noxapater; East Central Scholars (Thomas) Brittany Taylor, Lake; Arno and Ruth Carr Vincent – Charles Thorne, Newton County; Wallace Strickland – Haleigh West, Newton County; James M. Vance – Hanna Williams, Sebastopol; R.O. and Bertha Hannah – Keifer Wolfe, Lake; Bank of Morton – Kara Yates, Morton; Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood – Trevor Ayllon, Newton County; Coach Ken Pouncey Memorial – Conor Bell, Leake Central; Denver Brackeen – Katie Brackeen, Newton County; Classes of 1957-58-59 – Katie Bradley, Newton County; Rev. John Lambert Neill Memorial – Kennedy Castleberry, Clarkdale; Johnson-Taylor Memorial – Casey Cherry, Union; Sue Gunter Memorial – Erika Clark, Neshoba Central; State Farm Insurance Company – Gary Cooksey, Lake; Alumni Association Lifetime Membership – Aaron Cooper, Morton; Lucille Wood – Rayanne Craven – Newton County Academy; Myrtle R. Hutchison – Tiffany Dorman, Neshoba Central; Elva Smith Sigrest Memorial and S. Lebrun Hutchison – Shawn Evans, Forest; Frances Brown Crenshaw Nursing – Chelsy Ezell, Newton County; Class of 1964 – Savannah Glover, Newton County Academy; Kelley Humphreys Nursing – Alisha Jones, Carthage; Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers – Allie Killens, Saltillo; Hogue Brantley – Traci Lewis, Scott Central; Robert J. Moody, Jr. Special Education – Morgan Luke, Newton County; Aaron R. Davis Memorial – Hannah McCurdy, Morton; Dr. Shelby L. Harris Memorial – Jacob Oliver, Newton County; Thomas W. Thrash Memorial – Aderian Partain, Newton County; Dr. Margaret Mosal Memorial – Nathan Powell, Enterprise; Tony Dobbs Memorial – Emily Price, Sebastopol; Edwin and Marie Lowe - Angela Reeves, Decatur; General William Patrick Wilson Memorial – Felica Robinson, Newton County; Martha Kate Tullos Hummel and Robert G. Fick Memorial – Chandler Smith, Newton County;

Iris Pellegrene Boggan – Hailey Smith, Neshoba Central; Landon Bryan Burt Memorial – Jesse Vaughn, Newton County; Harvey and Martha Wheeler Pre-Pharmacy/Pre-Med – Jordan Walker, Newton County; Roscoe C. Pugh Memorial – Paige Wall, Newton County; Richard L. Harris – Nathan Williams, Union; Johnson Family Engineering – Bryant Williams, Newton County; Fred Preston Dallas and Maudie Threatt Dallas Memorial and Opal McMullan Dickerson Memorial – Hillary Williams, Neshoba Central; Ann H. Burkes PTK – Bryant Williams, Newton County; Sylvia Ann Graham Haywood Memorial - Brody Richardson, Winston Academy; Stella Weathersby Newsome – Sarina Murry, USM; Nancy Auline Hiett ADN – Angela Reeeves, Decatur; and New Directions – Jennifer Collins, Newton.

THE KARCHER FILE

New coach a 'perfect fit' for East Central

ECCC President Billy Stewart called new head football coach Ken Karcher a "perfect fit" when introducing him to the college earlier this year.

The new coach will take the field with the Warriors for the first time Aug. 29 on the Itawamba Community College campus in Fulton.

"We were very fortunate to have several outstanding applicants for this position, and we are pleased that Coach Karcher will be joining the EC family," Stewart said. "The search committee was very impressed with his playing and coaching experiences, football knowledge, recruiting ability and most of all, his character. As we checked references for Coach Karcher, several things came up over and over again: he is a Christian, a man of deep faith, a family man with great integrity and high character who is also very genuine as well as a consummate professional and classy individual. You will not find someone who cares more about his players. He is also a very knowledgeable football coach. I will tell you that I judge a coach by the simple fact would I want my child to play for him or her. Well, after several, lengthy discussions with Ken, I can honestly say that I would want my two sons to play for a man like Ken Karcher."

Karcher, who most recently served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Eastern Michigan University, said he looks forward to the challenge of developing a winning program at East Central.

Having coached on both the high school and senior college level, Karcher said he looks forward to joining the community college ranks.

Karcher, 49, served the past four seasons at Eastern Michigan, a member of the Mid-American Conference.

He is also a former head coach at Liberty University, where he succeeded EC alumnus Sam Rutigliano.

Karcher began his coaching career in 1991 at North Texas State University, where he coached quarterbacks and wide receivers.

Karcher

He was hired the following season by head Coach Galen Hall as passing game coordinator and quarterbacks coach for the Orlando Thunder of the World League of American Football.

After the World League was suspended, Karcher returned to the collegiate ranks as an assistant on Johnny Major's coaching staff at the University of Pittsburgh. During his first season, he served as the Panthers' pass offense coordinator and quarterbacks coach, sharing duties with run offensive coordinator Charlie Coe.

In March 1994, Majors put Karcher in sole charge of the offense, promoting him to offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. He held that position for the next three years, until Majors' resignation at the end of the 1996 season.

In 1997, Karcher rejoined Galen Hall in the revamped World League, this time as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach of the Rhein Fire, based in Dusseldorf, Germany.

He helped lead the Fire to their first winning season in the team's three-year history. Rhein finished in first place with a 7-3 record but lost to the Barcelona Dragons in World Bowl IV. Under Karcher's tutelage, quarterback T.J. Rubley earned All-World League honors and was named the league's most valuable offensive player.

Karcher's offense led the league in rushing yards (1555) and ranked second in total offense (3253). The offensive line set a league record by holding opponents to only one sack the entire regular season.

Karcher was chosen the sixth head football coach at Liberty University on February 18, 2000.

He served six seasons at Liberty, compiling an overall 21-46 record and 6-8 mark in conference play, including two straight second-place finishes.

Karcher continued his career in 2006 as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Fellowship Christian High School in Roswell, Ga., where he led the Paladians to their first-ever winning season and a deep run in the Georgia state playoffs. He also served as the school's athletic director and taught a ninth-grade Bible class at Fellowship Bible Church.

In 2008, Karcher was named quarterbacks coach at the University of Toledo. He helped lead the Rockets in an upset win over the Michigan Wolverines, although the squad finished 3-8.

Karcher was hired in January 2009 by head coach Ron English as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Eastern Michigan University and remained with the program until December 2012.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Karcher was a highly recruited quarterback at Shaler Area High School where he was selected a Parade All-American in 1980. He continued his athletic career at the University of Notre Dame where he was a backup to Blair Kiel. After two years he transferred to Tulane University, where he completed his collegiate playing career.

He later continued his career in the National Football League as a member of the Denver Broncos and played as a replacement player when other NFL players were on strike. The Broncos retained him for the rest of the year, and Karcher was a back-up for John Elway when the team played in Super Bowl XXII in 1988.

Karcher is married to the former Pauline Termini and they have four children, daughters Kelly and Katie, and sons Austin and Clay.

ECCC

From 20

he earned All-State and All-Metro honors.

On the defensive side, Karcher considers cornerback Chris Apperwhite as the top returnee.

Apperwhite is a 6', 170-pound product of Laurel High School, where he received second team All-State and 4A All-District honors.

Austin Franklin returns to handle kicking and punting duties. Franklin averaged 36.4 yards per punt. His longest effort was a 55-yarder against Jones County. His best day as a kicker came in a 31-0 victory over MS Delta, when he drilled a 32-yard field goal and connected on all four PATs. Franklin is a 6', 180-pound product of Petal High School, where he was a first team All-Metro selection on the 6A State Championship squad.

Other sophomores and their respective high schools include quarterback Donnie Fenmer (6', 207), Harrison Central; tight end and All Area selection Layton Holcomb (6-2, 220), Oak Grove; and linebacker/defensive back Zachary Thigpen (5-9, 200), an All-State selection from Laurel.

Freshman players, their respective honors and high schools include long snapper Trent Haden (5-8, 195), All-District, Sumrall; quarterback Jacori Taylor (6-2, 210), first team All-State, Early County, GA; wide receiver Daniel Gregory (6-1, 190), All-District, New Hope; wide receiver Jimmie Saulsberry (6', 180), Starkville; wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell (5-10, 170), first team All-State, Columbus; wide receiver/defensive back Desmond Grayson (5-11, 175), Meridian; tight end Tyler Pace (6-2, 260), All-State, All-Conference. All-District, Newton; tight end Brandon Davis (6', 240) and nose guard Demetre McCleon (5-11, 260), both of Newton County; Lamarcus "Marko" Franks (5-5, 150), All-State and three-time team MVP, Greene County; running back Matthew Hicks (5-11, 206), Ocean Springs; guard Andy Morris (6-1, 260), All-District and District Defensive MVP; Amite School Center; offensive tackle Edward Delee (6-5, 290), All-District, All-Metro and Fab 15, Centreville Academy, Clinton, La.; center Quincy Cole (6', 266), All-State, Ackerman; offensive/defensive lineman Jonathan Chambers (5-10, 275), second team All-State, offensive lineman of the year and most improved, West Oktibbeha HS, Dallas, Texas; offensive lineman KarDevin Thomas (5-11, 313), second team All-State, Super 24 OL and NEMS All-Star, Calhoun City; offensive lineman Brandon Thomas (6-3, 285), first team All Coast, Gulfport; offensive lineman Brody Martin (6-1, 250), All Conference, MAIS All-Star, Marshall Academy, Red Banks, MS; offensive tackle Charles Robinson (6-2, 280), Neshoba Central; defensive backs Blake Gordon (5-11, 196), defensive lineman Xavier Telfort (6-1,280) and defensive end Ronald Dixon (6-1, 210), all of Northwest Rankin; defensive back Anthony Ruffin (5-10, 185), All-State and three-time All-District, Kemper County; defensive back Blake Bateaste (5-8, 165), D'Iberville; defensive back Jabri Selmon (5-6, 165), Kosciusko; defensive back JaDerrick Farrow (5-11, 195), All-Region, All-State, MVP, Bleckley County, Cochran, GA; defensive back Sheppard Jones (5-8, 168), Lanier; cornerback Anthony Triplett (5-8, 150), two-time All-State selection, Philadelphia; cornerback Chris Thornton (5-7, 160), All-State, most valuable returner and linebacker Kendrick Maxwell (6', 220), Super 22 Offensive Lineman and most improved defensive lineman, both of Houston; defensive back/strong safety Grant Landrum (5-11, 190), All-District, All-Conference, Sumrall; free safety Darrion Burnside (6-4, 185), All-State, All-District, Neshoba Central; free safety Phankezian Walker (6-2, 194), All-District and defensive end Anthony McGee (6-2, 240), both of Quitman; cornerback Zachery Bobbitt (5-8, 160), Meridian; linebacker Christian Wraggs (5-11, 192), defensive player of the year, Super 11, Louisville; linebacker Dewayne Lewis (5-10, 190), All-State, All-Region, Durant; linebacker Quanterris Newby (5-6, 210), All-State, All-District, New Hope; wide receiver/linebacker Chris Washington (6-5, 215), Lake; linebacker Thomas McCool (5-11, 220), All-State, All-District and defensive end K.D. Monroe (6-1, 260), All-Division, both of Neshoba Central; linebacker Matthew Moore (6-1, 222), defensive lineman/linebacker Daryl Rogers (6-3, 215) and defensive lineman/linebacker Joshua Brown (6', 232), most valuable defensive lineman, all of Laurel; linebacker Tyler Armistad (5-11, 210), All-Region, Caledonia; linebacker/safety Isaiah Williams (6-3, 202), All-Metro and nose guard Xavier Woodard (6', 350), both of Jim Hill; defensive tackle Jeremy Lindsey (6-1, 249), All-Division, Hamilton; defensive lineman Chris Yarbrough (5-9, 280), two-time All-District, Florence; defensive tackle Romario Cobb (6', 260), Ocean Springs; and linebacker Lucas Morgan (6-3, 218), All-District, honorable mention All-State, Morton.

The Warriors battle longtime rival East Mississippi at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5 in Scooba, and begin home action with MACJC South Division foe Copiah-Lincoln at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12 at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

APPEARED IN
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WEEK OF 8-25-13

ECCC trustees honored for service

These members of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees were honored for their service at the annual Mississippi Community/Junior College Trustees' Association Conference held July 12-13, 2013, in Biloxi. Receiving special recognition and their respective years of service include, from left, Ricky Goldman of Philadelphia, 10 years; Board Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, 10 years; former Board Chairman Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia, 45 years; and Randal Livingston of Louisville, 25 years. The trustees were also honored at the ECCC Board of Trustees meeting held August 13, 2013, on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC hires four new instructors

From school reports

Four new instructors have joined the staff at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Billy Stewart.

Laura J. Sullivan of Collinsville was recently selected computer network technology instructor.

Sullivan, who began her new duties on Aug. 12, was previously employed as a Systems Operator and PC/Network Technician at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian since 2009.

She previously worked for Ergon Incorporated as a Hardware Support Technician and for Meridian Public Schools as a PC Technician.

Sullivan currently serves as an adjunct instructor for Indiana Wesleyan University facilitating online classes for the College of Adult and Professional Studies in the areas of Computer and Information Processing, Desktop Applications, Hardware Troubleshooting and Operating Systems Concepts.

In addition, she is co-owner of Snap It Sports Photography in Meridian. She is also very active with the multimedia ministry at Midway Baptist Church.

A graduate of Meridian High School, Sullivan earned an associate of applied science degree from Meridian Community College in 2006; a bachelor of science degree (cum laude) in Information Technology from Columbia Southern University in Orange Beach, Ala., in 2009; and a master of science degree in Management-Information Systems Security from Colorado Technical University located in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 2011.

She has also earned Microsoft Certified Professional designation.

She is married to Steven Sullivan of Collinsville.

Her parents are Larry and Sharon Johnson of Meridian.

Sullivan

Adebisi

Denson

Derrington

Adebisi named physics instructor

Dr. Rasheed Adebisi of Oxford was recently selected physics instructor.

Dr. Adebisi, a native of Nigeria, began his new duties on Aug. 12.

He earned a bachelor of science degree in engineering physics from Obafemi Awolowo University, located in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, in 2000.

He entered the doctoral program at the University of Mississippi in 2006 and earned a Ph.D. in Physics from Ole Miss in 2011.

While a graduate student at Ole Miss, Dr. Adebisi conducted research at the National Center for Physical Acoustics and served as a teaching assistant for six semesters, teaching and grading laboratory exercises for general introductory physics.

He also taught calculus and physics for the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps at Ole Miss.

After earning his terminal degree, he worked for Soair, LLC, as a research scientist.

He and his wife Funke have two daughters, Ibukunoluwa and Oluwadara.

Denson named chemistry instructor

Amy Denson of Petal was recently selected chemistry instructor.

Denson, who began her new duties on Aug. 12, served the previous year as a science instructor at Petal High School. She served the past four years as an adjunct science instructor at the Hattiesburg campus of Pearl River Community College. In addition, she taught general chemistry laboratory courses for the University of Southern Mississippi while working on her doctoral degree in chemistry.

A graduate of Petal High School, Denson earned an associate of arts degree from Jones County Junior College in 1998, where she was member of the Lady Bobcat softball team.

She continued her education at the University of Southern Mississippi, earning a bachelor of science degree with highest honors in chemistry in 2011. She received a master of science degree in agricultural life sciences from Mississippi State University in 2005.

In addition, she has earned more than 70 graduate hours in chemistry from USM and only needs to complete her dissertation to fulfill requirements for a Ph.D.

Her parents are Scott County natives Nancy Thorne Denson and Donald Denson of Petal.

Derrington selected biology instructor

Dan Derrington of Clinton was recently selected b ogy instructor.

Derrington, who began new duties on Aug. 12, viously served as stu worker in the Office of G uate Studies and serve an ACT tutor for the Of of Continuing Outre Services, while a grad student at Mississippi lege.

A 2006 graduate of Me ian High School, Derrin received a bachelor's de in biological sciences f Mississippi State Univer in 2011.

He earned a master's gree in biomedical scie from Mississippi Colleg 2013.

WEEK OF 5-15-13

Bowles named ECCC heating, air conditioning instructor

ND

Clarence Edgar "Eddie" Bowles III of Chunky was recently selected heating and air conditioning technology instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Bowles, who began his new duties on Aug. 12, served the past year as a product analyst at Fairbanks Scales in Meridian.

He has also worked as a civil engineer for H&T Consultants, Inc., in Jacksonville, Fla.

He began his career at Tew Heating and Air in Meridian, a heating/cooling service and repair organization, where he directed projects and gathered materials necessary to complete jobs.

He also designed and built custom duct systems to suit customer needs.

A 2004 graduate of Meridian High School, Bowles continued his education at Meridian Community College, where he earned an Industrial Maintenance Certificate in 2005 and received as Associate Degree in Drafting and Design in 2007.

Clarence Edgar Bowles, III

While a student at MCC, Bowles won first-place honors in Sheet Metal at the Mississippi SkillsUSA Competition.

Bowles again furthered his education at Mississippi State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering in 2011.

He is married to Jana Bowles, an ECCC alumna.

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF X-25-13

Derrington selected as ECCC biology instructor

Dan Derrington of Clinton was recently selected biology instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Derrington, who began his new duties on Aug. 12, 2013, previously served as student worker in the Office of Graduate Studies and served as an ACT tutor for the Office of Continuing Outreach Services, while a graduate student at Mississippi College.

A 2006 graduate of Meridian High School, Derrington received a bachelor's degree in biological sciences from Mississippi State University in 2011. He earned a master's degree in biomedical sciences from Mississippi College in 2013.

Dan Derrington

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF 8-25-13

Coach Tony Dungy to speak at ECCC event

Former National Football League head football coach Tony Dungy will be the guest speaker at an East Central Community College-sponsored program scheduled March 28, 2014, at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

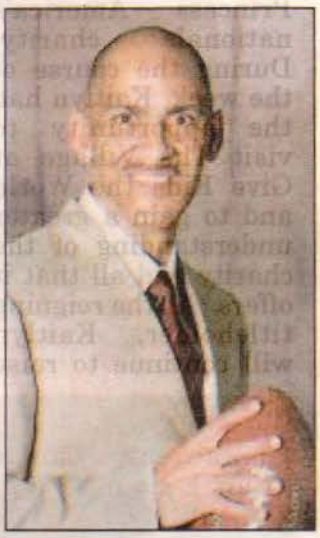
Coach Dungy, who will visit the EC campus in Decatur prior to the event, will participate in a fundraising effort for the Warrior football program, led by first-year head coach Ken Karcher, a longtime friend and associate.

Coach Dungy, who retired from coaching in 2008 after a successful career which included a 2007 Super Bowl victory with the Indianapolis Colts, now serves as an analyst for NBC's Football Night in America.

He is also the #1 New York Times bestselling author of Quiet Strength and Uncommon.

In addition, Coach Dungy is involved in a wide variety of charitable organizations, including the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Athletes in Action, Mentors for Life, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Clubs, Prison Crusade Ministry, All-Pro Dads and many others.

"The College is extremely fortunate to have someone of Coach Dungy's reputation and stature to visit our campus and community," said ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. "I can say that our football program, our college and our community will be blessed by the presence of Tony Dungy this spring."



Dungy

More information about Coach Tony Dungy's visit to East Central Community College will be announced at a later date.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 1, 2015

ECCC adjunct instructors

These Neshoba County residents are members of the Adjunct Faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are first row, from left, Denise Keller, Hillary Ward, Gigi Barron, Ken Barron, Misti McDaniel, Angela Holdiness and Travis Dixon, all of Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

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Jones, Bowles join ECCC staff

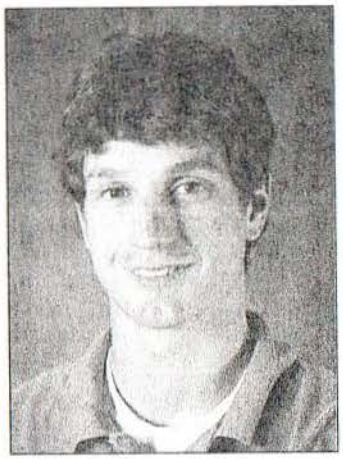
From school reports

Nancy Lee Jones of Lake was recently selected residential carpentry instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Billy Stewart.

Jones, who began her new duties on Aug. 12, was previously employed by Yates Construction and/or Yates Engineering in Philadelphia since February 1999, where she served as a submittal coordinator, drafts person and in the area of quality control.

While employed at Yates, she was involved in several major construction projects including Neshoba County General Hospital, Bok Homa Casino in Sandersville, NAS Fire Station at Joe Williams Field in DeKalb and Canton Elementary School of Math and Science in Canton.

Jones



Bowles

Prior to her 14 years at Yates, she worked for Taylor Machine Works as a drafts person for two years and at La-Z-Boy South as a shipping clerk for one year.

A 1994 graduate of Lake High School, Jones received a two-year certificate from ECCC in 1995 in Advanced Carpentry and Cabinetmaking. She earned an applied science degree in Drafting and Design Technology – Architectural Drafting at ECCC in 1997.

While at ECCC, Jones was named Carpentry Student of the Month in November 1995 and received an Achievement Award for Cabinetmaking the same year. She won first-place honors at the 1995 Mississippi VICA (SkillsUSA as known today) Competition in Cabinetmaking and advanced to the national contest.

She is the daughter of Tommy and Johnnie Ruth Sanders of Lake, and Jerry and Carolyn Jones of Newton.

Bowles named Heating, A/C instructor

Clarence Edgar "Eddie" Bowles, III of Chunky was recently selected heating and air conditioning technology instructor at East Central Community College.

Bowles, who began his new duties on Aug. 12, served the past year as a product analyst at Fairbanks Scales in Meridian. He has also worked as a civil engineer for H&T Consultants, Inc., in Jacksonville, Fla.

He began his career at Tew Heating and Air in Meridian, a heating/cooling service and repair organization, where he directed projects and gathered materials necessary to complete jobs. He also designed and built c
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A 2004 graduat
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Bowles, an ECCC

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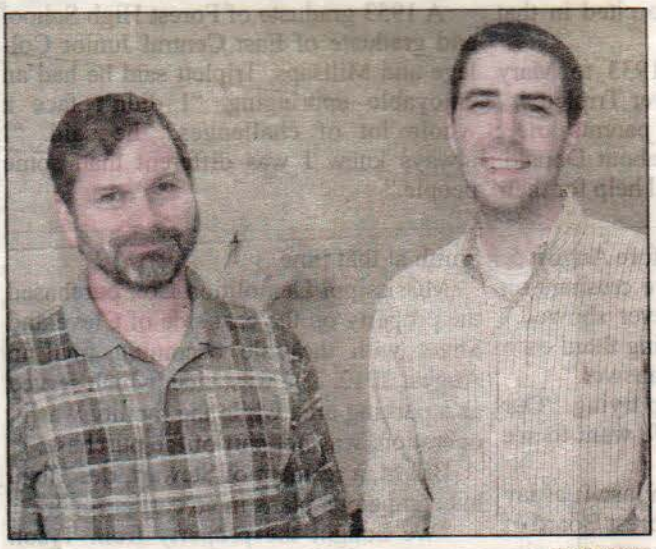
WEEK OF Sept. 8, 2013



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS

These Scott County residents are members of the Adjunct Faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Michael Miles of Walnut Grove and Lance Hall of Forest. For more information, contact Dr. Teresa Houston, ECCC Vice President for Instruction, at 601-635-6202 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 202. Her email address is thouston@eccc.edu.

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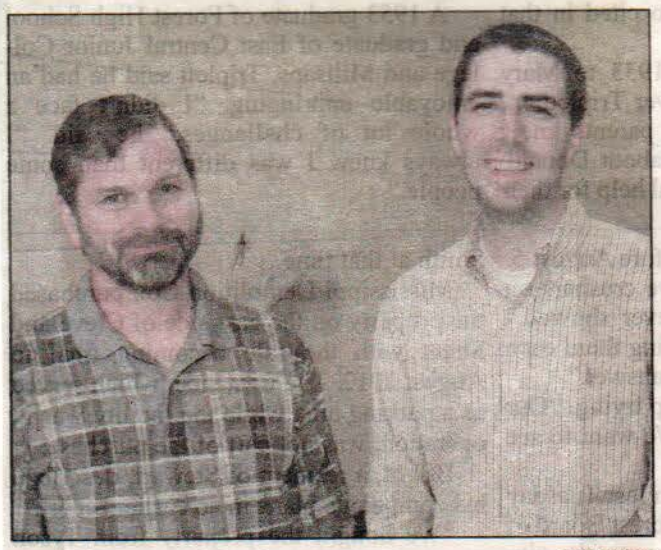
WEEK OF Sept. 8, 2013



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS

These Scott County residents are members of the Adjunct Faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Michael Miles of Walnut Grove and Lance Hall of Forest. For more information, contact Dr. Teresa Houston, ECCC Vice President for Instruction, at 601-635-6202 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 202. Her email address is thouston@eccc.edu.

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ECCC plans new $4.8M football operations center

Fundraising efforts are under way to construct a new Football Operations Center at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Dr. Stewart said the $4.8 million complex will be located on north end of Bailey Stadium and includes a state-of-the art weight room and athletic training facility for all student-athletes. Also included in the plans is a $1 million turf field to replace the existing grass field.

"The completion of this facility and field has the potential to positively affect the future of Warrior athletics for many years," said Dr. Stewart. "First and foremost, its construction will impact each of the five commitments our institution has made as a component of 20/20 Vision. But it also has the potential to seamlessly connect our athletic facilities to the college and our community. I am confident that the construction of this facility will set us apart from our peers and enhance our reputation as a training ground for excellence. It will certainly communicate Excellence with Class – the EC Way."

Added Athletic Director Chris Harris: "I'm excited about the commitment Dr. Stewart and the Board of Trustees have made on behalf of our athletic programs. As with any project involving improvements to athletic facilities, private donors have a tremendous impact on the success of the project and the timing in which the project will be completed."

First-year head football coach Ken Karcher has played a key role in the design of the Football Operations Center.

"This facility will be a place to further develop our student-athletes in all four phases of their life -- intellectually, physically, spiritually and socially – which is our mission at ECCC," said Karcher.

To make a contribution or for more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES
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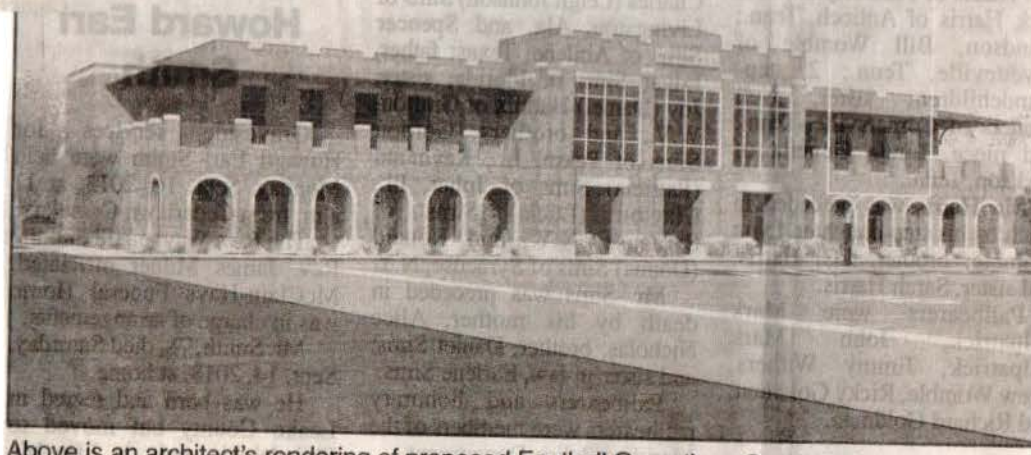

Above is an architect's rendering of proposed Football Operations Center to be constructed o the north end of Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus of East Central Community Colleg The estimated $4.8 million complex will include a state-of-the-art weight room and athletic trai ing facility for all student-athletes at the college. It will also include a Warrior Room as well a a meeting space for the department of athletics and the community. Plans also include insta lation of a $1 million turf field to replace the existing grass field. Fundraising efforts are unde way to construct the facility.

Buildings / Programs

WEEK OF Sept 15, 2013

East Central lays homecoming plans

Fireworks, a pep rally and Christian band concert will highlight homecoming week at East Central Community College.

Free events begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, at Bailey Stadium and includes performances by Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Centralettes dance line and Warrior cheerleaders.

Members of the 2013 homecoming court will be introduced.

A full day of activities is scheduled homecoming day, Saturday, Oct. 12, beginning with the seventh annual 5K run/walk and a new event, a kid's one-mile fun run at 7:30 a.m. at the north campus pavilion.

Cost to enter is $20 per participant. For information telephone Dr. Phillip Crenshaw at 601-635-6281 or e-mail pcrenshaw@eccc.edu.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. on the east mall patio near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Retired English instructor Ovid Vickers will sign copies of his book, "The East Central I Knew: A History of East Central Community College." Cost of the book is $26.70 (tax included). Net proceeds are designated for the ECCC Foundation.

The memorabilia room will be open from 9 to 11 a.m. in Burton Library.

The College Bookstore, the Smith Student Union, will have special hours, for the convenience of alumni and other visitors, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The annual ECCC Alumni Association awards luncheon will begin at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

This year's honorees are Carolyn Cook Huey, Alumna of the Year and her husband, Max Huey, Alumnus of the Year, members of the ECCC Class of 1965 Picayune residents.

Pete Lucovich (Class of 1973) of Carthage and Louisville native Marcus Thames (Class of 1997) of Tampa, Fla., will be inducted into the college's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Luncheon tickets are $12 each and may be purchased by contacting Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

Election of alumni association officers will be held during the luncheon.

At 11 a.m. the annual Lil Warrior Kid Zone will open, continuing through 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The annual Warrior Club meeting and tailgating activities begin at 1 p.m. on the deck inside Bailey Stadium.

Meetings of various reunion groups get under way at 1 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart will present 50th anniversary diplomas to the Class of 1963 during ceremonies at 1:30 p.m. in Brackeen-Wood.

The Warriors host Mississippi Delta Community College in the annual homecoming battle scheduled at 2:30 p.m. on Warrior Field at Bailey Stadium.

Halftime activities will **include recognition of homecoming honorees, presentation of the queen and her court, awarding of MACJC state championship rings and presentation of a Mississippi legislative resolution honoring the 2013 Diamond Warriors; and performance by the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.**

For more information on homecoming telephone 601-635-6327 or, toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327, or e-mail sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF Sept. 15, 2013

ECCC homecoming set Oct. 12 with various activities planned

A pep rally, fireworks display and Christian Band Concert are among activities scheduled during Homecoming Week at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The free event begins at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10 at Bailey Stadium and also includes performances by Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Centralettes dance line and Warrior Cheerleaders. In addition, members of the 2013 Homecoming Court will be introduced. The public is invited to attend the festivities.

A full day of activities is also scheduled Homecoming Day on Saturday, October 12, beginning with the Seventh Annual 5K Run/Walk and a new event – a Kid's One-Mile Fun Run – all starting at 7:30 a.m. at the North Campus Pavilion.

Cost to enter is $20 per participant. ECCC faculty member Dr. Phillip Crenshaw serves as race chairman. For registration information, contact Dr. Crenshaw, 601-635-6281 or e-mail pcrenshaw@eccc.edu.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. on the East Mall Patio near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Retired English instructor Ovid Vickers will be available during registration activities to sign copies of his recently-released book about the College: "The East Central I Knew: A

a.m. and is located in Burton Library.

The College Bookstore, located in the Smith Student Union, will also have special hours of operation that day for the convenience of alumni and other campus visitors. The bookstore will be open from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. College merchandise will also be available for purchase prior to and during the football game later that day at Bailey Stadium.

The annual ECCC Alumni Association Awards Luncheon begins at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

This year's honorees are Carolyn Cook Huey, Alumna of the Year and her husband, Max Huey, Alumnus of the Year, who are members of the ECCC Class of 1965 and reside in Picayune; and Pete Lucovich (Class of 1973) of Carthage and Louisville native Marcus Thames (Class of 1997) of Tampa, Fla., who will be inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Luncheon tickets are $12 each and can be purchased by contacting Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

Election of Alumni Association officers will also be held during the Awards Luncheon.

Meetings of various reunion groups get under way at 1 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Honorees for 2013 include members of the Classes of 1957,1958 and 1959; Class of 1963; Warriors and Lady Warrior Basketball Teams from 1937 to 1971; the first Graduating LPN Class (1993) in recognition of the group's 20th Anniversary; and members of other classes ending in "3" – 1943, 1953, 1973, 1983, 1993 and 2003.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart will present 50th Anniversary Diplomas to the Class of 1963 during a ceremony scheduled at 1:30 p.m. in Brackeen-Wood.

The Warriors host Mississippi Delta Community College in the annual Homecoming battle scheduled at 2:30 p.m. on Warrior Field at Bailey Stadium.

Several activities will be held during halftime ceremonies, including recognition of Homecoming Honorees; presentation of the Queen and her Court; awarding of MACJC State Championships rings and presentation of a Mississippi Legislative resolution honoring the 2013 Diamond Warriors; and performance by the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

For more information on

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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Faculty / Administration

WEEK OF Sept. 15, 2013

Adjunct faculty at EC

These Newton County residents are members of the adjunct faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (first row, from left) Mickey and Tammy Vance, Sharli Daigle, Michelle Lee and Tonya Nowell, all of Decatur; (second row, from left) Renee Boggan, Hickory; Sue Kelly, Lawrence; Jason McElhenney, Union; and Robert Thompson and Lee Ann Williamson, both of Decatur; and (third row, from left) Yuvaraj Muthu and Daniele Brock, both of Decatur; Chad Bond, Hickory; and Scott Brock, Decatur. For more information, contact Teresa Houston, ECCC vice president for instruction, at 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205.

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EC ranked among America's top 50 community colleges

From school reports

East Central Community College in Decatur is once again nationally recognized for its success in providing a quality education.

ECCC is ranked the 23rd best community college in the nation, according to the Sept. 2013 edition of Washington Monthly, which included ECCC in its 2013 College Guide's annual ranking of "America's Top 50 Community Colleges."

According to the publication, "... rankings are based entirely on measures of best educational practices and actual student success. Of the eight measures that determine each college's rank, five are from the respected Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE)....colleges that connect with their students and challenge them to do a good work get particularly high marks. It's also crucial to keep students on track to finish their degrees. That's why this year's rankings include three measures that are used by the Aspen Institute's annual Prize for Community College Excellence: the percentage of new students who return for a second year; the percentage who graduate or transfer elsewhere within three years; the percentage of new students who return for a second year; and the overall ratio of credentials granted for every 100 students enrolled."

ECCC President Billy Stewart expressed his appreciation to faculty and staff on receiving the national recognition in a campus-wide e-mail.

"I want to be the first to congratulate the entire East Central Community College family for this honor," wrote Stewart. "While we will face many challenges in the years ahead as we strive to fulfill the commitments of 2020 Vision the EC Way – Excellence with Class, we are on our way to achieving our vision of being nationally recognized."

Stewart also challenged the faculty and staff to reach even greater heights in providing a quality education for East Central students.

"Our faculty and staff will be encouraged by this great recognition, but they will also be motivated to continue to provide excellent learning opportunities for the students and communities we are called and blessed to serve," said Stewart. "At East Central, we are all in the business of student success. Therefore, we will always strive to provide high quality educational and training programs and services that provide greatest impact on the teach and learning process."

Community college enrollment falls

Enrollment has fallen at Miss sippi's 15 community colleges the third year in a row, accord to preliminary figures reported the Community College Board.

The new data shows that number of students enrolled at state's two-year schools fell percent this fall to 77,661.

Jones County Junior College the only school to see enrollm climb this fall.

College

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:K OF Sept. 21, 2015

Adjunct instructors

ECCC Adjunct Instructors

(Right) These Winston County residents are members of the Adjunct Faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Mary Ann Ballew, Sylvia Wright and Paula Stokes, and (back row, from left) Diane Carter, Shonna Ryals and Cassandra Fulton, all of Louisville. For more information, contact Dr. Teresa Houston, ECCC Vice President for Instruction, at 601-635-6202 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 202. Her email address is thouston@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Sept. 29, 2013

Final preparations

Finalizing plans for East Central Community College's 2013 Homecoming celebration are the above Alumni Association Officers and Board of Directors, who include (seated from left) Florence Harkins Henley of Starkville, out-of-district representative; Ann Hunter Burkes of Decatur, Newton County representative; Alumni Association officers Jeanette Beevers Thrash of Decatur, secretary, Lois Blount Cooper of Madison, president, and Dow Thomas of Louisville, vice president; and Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, ECCC Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations; and (standing from left) Harvey Trapp of Decatur, Newton County representative; Billy Stewart, ECCC President; Dayna Morgan of Philadelphia, Neshoba County representative; Jerald Everett of Clinton, out-of-district representative; ECCC staff members Randall Lee, vice president for student services, Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction and Amanda Walton, workforce education counselor; and Paul Chamblee of Carthage, Leake County representative. Homecoming is scheduled Saturday, October 12. For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth at 601-635-6327 or email sholling@eccc.edu. A list of Homecoming activities is available on the college's Web site, www.eccc.edu.

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Alumni / Scholarships / Homecoming

WEEK OF Oct. 6, 2013

Lucovich selected for ECCC Hall of Fame

Pete Lucovich spent 32 years as a successful high school coach and teacher at Carthage High School following a standout football and baseball career at then East Central Junior College from 1971-73.

In recognition of his success in athletics, Lucovich will be inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame during the 2013 Homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, Oct. 12 on the Decatur campus.

Lucovich and former Major League Baseball player and Louisville native Marcus Thames, now of Tampa, Fla., will be enshrined at the Alumni Association Awards Luncheon beginning at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Lucovich, who came to EC following a stellar athletic career at Hickory High School, said he is "deeply honored and thankful" for the prestigious award.

LUCOVICH

When he retired in 2010, Lucovich had logged 28 years as athletic director and head football coach at Carthage High School, where his teams compiled an overall record of 162 wins and 125 losses.

He led 10 Tiger teams to the state playoffs, and three squads (1991, 1992 and 2007) finished Class AAA South State runners-up.

He also had four squads (1983, 1991, 1992 and 2007) to achieve number-one rankings in the state during season competition.

Lucovich also achieved success as a junior varsity head football coach, compiling an overall 49-14 mark.

He also served as golf and tennis coach at CHS.

He led the golf team for 12 years (1998-2010) and seven squads qualified for state tournament competition.

He coached tennis for eight years (2002-2010), compiling four district tournament titles and a state tournament appearance.

Lucovich received numerous honors and awards throughout his career, and credits the ECCC staff and coaches "for preparing me for a successful teaching and coaching career."

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WEEK OF Oct. 6, 2013

ECCC Lamplighters

These East Central Community College faculty members were recently selected to attend the annual Lamplighters Conference, which honors outstanding community and junior college instructors. Lamplighters and their respective teaching areas include, from left, Christy Savell, associate degree nursing; Lynn Selman, special populations mathematics; and Pam Fowler, English. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Oct. 15, 2015

MS Army National Guard partners with ECCC

Staff Sergeant Jonathan McDonald, left, presents a replica of a $1,500 check to ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Athletic Director Chris Harris during a recent visit to campus, with funds designated for advertisements in sports media guides, signs on athletic fields and other public relations projects. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Oct. 20, 2013

Grave situation

East Central Community College drafting and design students, above, led by Chris Ryals, instructor background, including, from left, Elizabeth Hart, Louisville; Ryan McClendon, Forest; and Ashley Devine, Carthage, in a Saturday class project to photograph and assign GPS tags to graves in the 175-year-old Carthage Cemetery on South Van Buren Street. A map of all graves should be ready by the end of November, said Ryals, who consults records, right, kept by Dixie Petty, local historian.

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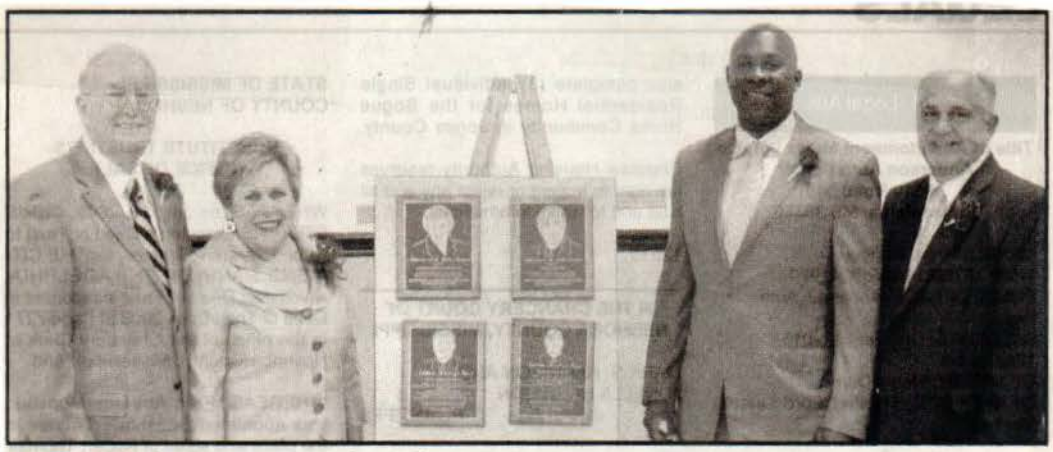
WEEK OF Oct. 20, 2013



ECCC homecoming honorees

Receiving special recognition during East Central Community College's 2013 Homecoming celebration held Saturday, Oct. 12 were, from left, Max Huey and his wife, Carolyn Cook Huey and Marcus Thames and Pete Lucovich. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Oct 31, 2013

NEW DECATUR TOWN MURAL

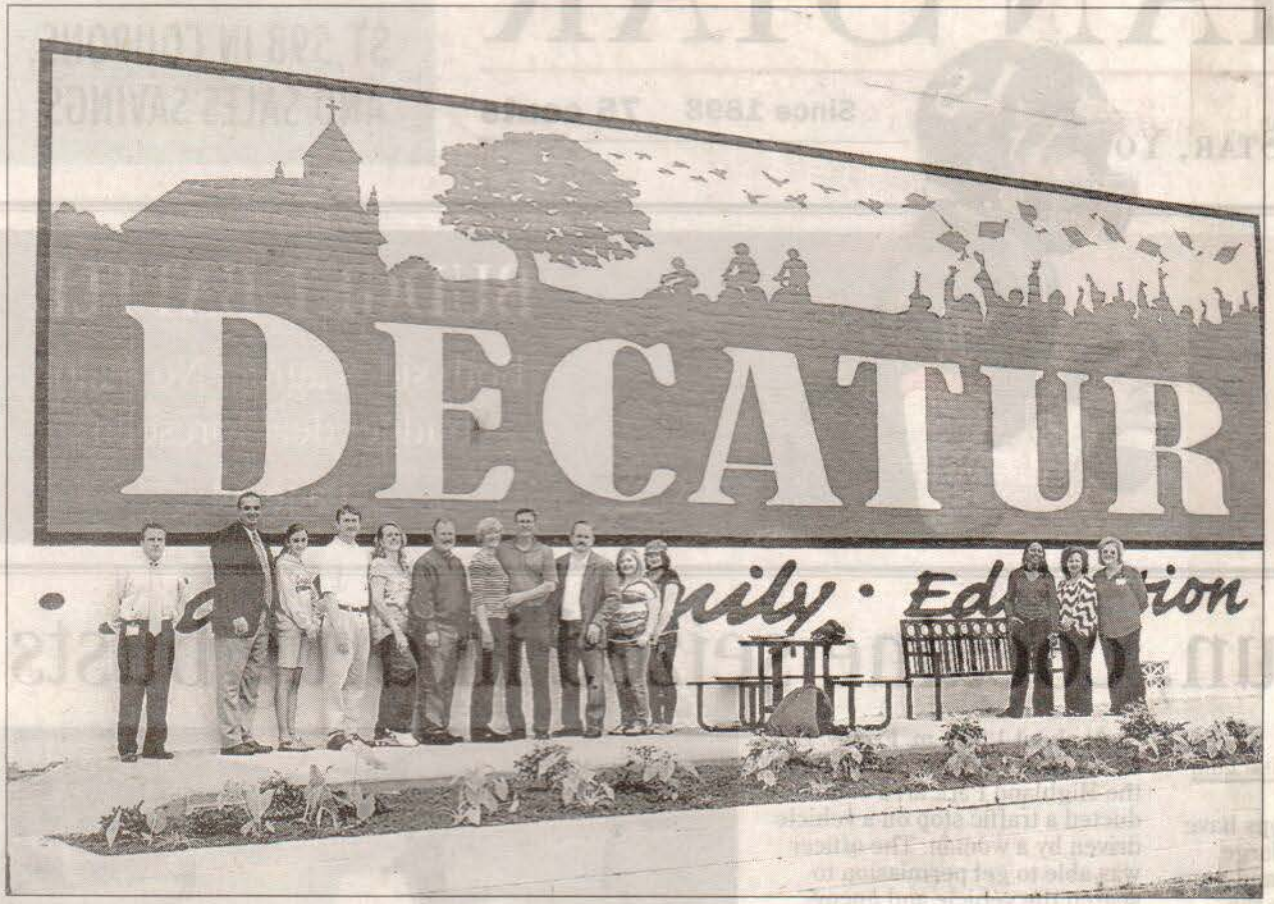

Photo courtesy of ECCC

The new Decatur town mural and picnic area was officially dedicated by the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce during a brief ceremony earlier this month. Mayor Pat O'Neill (eighth from left) presided at the program and expressed appreciation to the various individuals and organizations "that came together" to complete the project. The mural serves as a "welcome" to downtown Decatur and includes the Chamber's message of "Faith, Family and Education." East Central Community College art instructor Chris Brady (ninth from left) and students Jessica Skinner of Philadelphia and Deeana Carlson of Newton painted the mural. Also attending the ceremony were (from left) ECCC Vice President for Business Operations Mickey Vance and President Dr. Billy Stewart; Dr. Stewart's daughter, Lizzie Stewart; Chamber representatives Doug Smith and Candy Babson; State Rep. Randy Rushing; Dianne and Mayor O'Neill; and ECCC Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston and music instructors Natalie Emmons and Vicki Blalock.

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WEEK OF Oct 31, 2013

NEW DECATUR TOWN MURAL

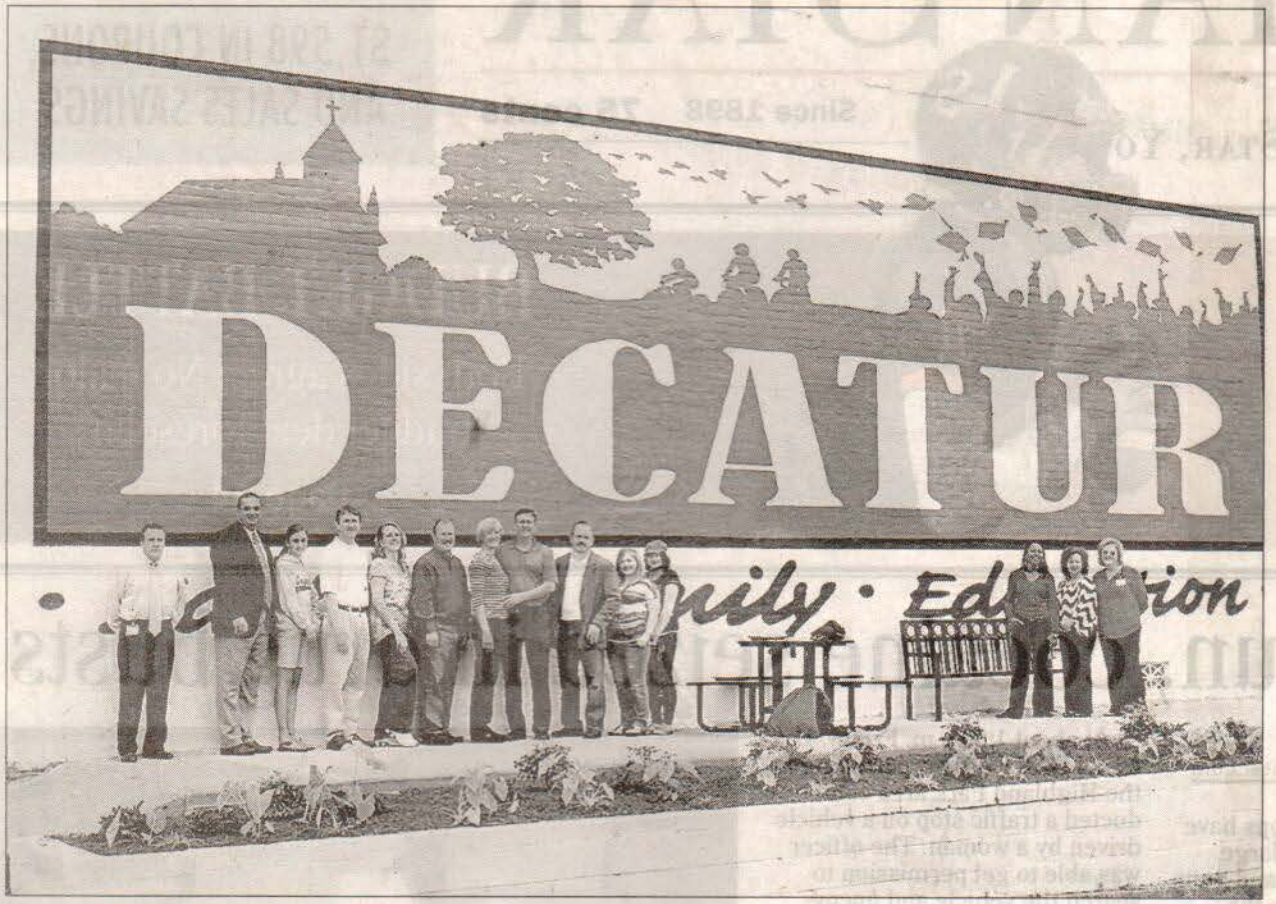

Photo courtesy of ECCC

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WEEK OF Oct. 27, 2013

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Sunday, October 27, 2013

Vicki Blaylock to present humanities program Nov. 12

special to The Star

DECATUR – In recognition of her recent recognition 2013 Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher of the Year at East Central Community College, choral/vocal music instructor Vicki Blaylock of Newton will present "Music: The Ripple Effect" on Nov. 12.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 7 p.m. in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

Blaylock, who also serves as chairperson of the Division of Fine Arts, was selected for the honor by the Mississippi Humanities Council. Each year, the council honors one faculty member from each of the state's community colleges and four-year colleges and universities.

For her upcoming presentation, Blaylock will discuss the importance of music both economically and culturally, as well as music education and its importance. She will also perform several musical selections while discussing the "ripples" or the people who were influences in her music career and how others can be a ripple to ensure music is a vital part of education.

Blaylock joined the ECCC faculty in 2000 and has 31 years experience in music education. She has taught keyboard, voice and music education courses and currently serves as director of the Concert Choir and Ac'cents show choir.

She was recently elected president of the Mississippi Community and Junior College Choral Association and in 2003 was selected a Lamplighter, which honors outstanding community and junior college faculty throughout the state.

Blaylock

Blaylock received her bachelor's degree in music education from Delta State University and the master's degree in music education from Mississippi College. She also has completed Kodaly Level I Certification.

She is married to Ronnie Blaylock and they have two children, Clanton and Anna Rose, who are both graduates of East Central Community College.

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Oct. 27, 2013

Legendary Coach, subject of 'Remember the Titans' to speak at ECC

Herman Boone, legendary head football coach at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va., and the inspiration for the movie "Remember the Titans" will speak at East Central Community College in Decatur on Wednesday, November 20, 2013.

Activities begin at 6 p.m. in Huff Auditorium. There is no charge for admission and the event is open to the public. However, due to limited space, seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said, "Coach Boone will share lessons in diversity, respect, teamwork, community involvement and the importance of character. He will also offer commentary about his experiences associated with "Remember the Titans.""

After his remarks, Coach Boone will engage in a Question and Answer session in the auditorium.

Following Coach Boone's presentation in Huff Auditorium, the college will host a reception in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria where at dees will have an op tunity to meet speak to Coach Boo

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WEEK OF Oct. 27, 2013

ECCC reaches out to area veterans

East Central Community College will pay tribute to military veterans, hosting Veterans Appreciation Outreach Day Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Decatur .

Activities will begin with complimentary breakfast and program for veterans from 7 to 8 a.m. in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Retired Maj. Gen. William L. Freeman, Jr. of Newton will speak

Freeman, a 1964 ECJC graduate, capped a 46-year military career as Mississippi adjutant general in January 2012.

His service included almost five years as battery ccommander of the Fourth/114th Field Artillery Unit, now the F. Clinton Russell Physical Plant Complex at ECCC .

Also on the program will be ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart and Brig. Gen. (Rt.) Billy Pierce of Decatur. Pierce will lead posting of colors and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Veterans will have access to the Veterans Administration Mobile Health Clinic, provided by the G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. near the Tucker Applied Technology Center.

FREEMAN

Available services will include eligibility determination, registration, enrollment in MyHealtheVet, physical exams, patient education, and information on the Vet Center, benefits, cemeteries and female veterans.

Veterans should provide their DD214 numbers when they visit the health clinic.

To RSVP for the breakfast ceremony or for more information telephone Jessica Gibson, coordinator of veteran's affairs and enrollment services, at 601-635-6392 or e-mail jgibson@eccc.edu, or Belinda Chambers-Okafor at 601-362-4471, ext. 5136 or 601-500-1156 at the VA Med Center.

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Board / Officials

ECCC Board of Trustees

Serving on the East Central Community College Board of Trustees in 2013 a (first row, from left) Ricky Goldman, Philadelphia; Beverly Hart, Union; Delar Hudson, Louisville; Van Lucas and Rodney Bounds, both of Newton; Verno Crotwell, Morton; William E. Kitchings, Carthage; and Jerry Smith (vice chairmar Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Ken McMullan of Louisville, Louisvil Municipal School District Superintendent; Dr. Danny Lanier, Little Rock; Rebecc Farris, Morton; Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (chairman), Lake; Royce Shaw (secretar Forest; Prentice Copeland, Philadelphia; Janie Wilbanks, Carthage; Rand Livingston, Louisville; and Annie Stowers, Forest; and (back row, from left) Dav Byars, Philadelphia; Tommy Dearing of Philadelphia, Neshoba Coun Superintendent of Education; Pat Cleveland, Conehatta; Leo Parker, Noxapate Patrick Posey of Carthage, Leake County Superintendent of Education; Alan Rhea, Carthage; W. B. Jones, Walnut Grove; Bingham Moncrief of Morton, Sco County Superintendent of Education; and Patsy Clark, Louisville. Board member not pictured include Dr. Kimsey Cooper, Carthage; Edsel Cliburn, Union; J.O. Am of Decatur, Newton County Superintendent of Education; and Jerry Nanc Louisville. Located in Decatur, ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott an Winston counties. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF NOV. 3, 2013

Instructors

ECCC ABE/GED Instructors - Winston County

Serving as Adult Basic Education and GED-Preparation instructors for classes in Winston County provided by East Central Community College in Decatur are (from left) Kay Ward, Shannon Smith and Daphne Donald, all of Louisville. Not pictured is Shelby Varner of Louisville. Classes are held from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the ECCC Career Advancement Center in Louisville. ECCC offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes at various locations in the college's support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, Director of ABE/GED Testing, at 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 386. The e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Nov. 7 2013

ECCC ABE/ESL/GED Preparation Instructors – Scott County

Providing instruction in Adult Basic Education, English-As-A-Second-Language and GED Preparation classes in Scott County are (from left) Delore Nelson of Forest, Teresa Lovett of Morton and Yolanda Adams of Forest. ABE/GED classes are held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the Forest-Scott County Career and Technology Center. ESL classes are held Tuesday and Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. in Forest High School Library. Classes are provided free of charge by East Central Community College in Decatur. ECCC offers free ABE/ESL/GED Preparation classes at various locations in the college's support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, Director of ABE/GED Testing, at 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Nov. 3, 2013

ECCC 57 to 59

ECCC Class of 1957, 58, 59 Honored

Members of East Central Community College's classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959 were among special groups honored during the College's Homecoming celebration held Saturday, October 12 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (front row, from left) Beverly (Henry) Oliphant of Roanoake, Va., Nancy Haggard of Clinton, Jimmy Rea of Flora, Lois Cooper of Madison and Jeanette Thrash of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Hank Moreau of Decatur, Bill Lovett of Forest, Bubba Hudspeth of Louisville and Danny Hopkins of Clinton. (EC PHOTO)

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WEEK OF Nov. 3, 2013

Golden

Celebrate Golden Anniversary

Observing their 50th class reunion at East Central Community College's 2013 Homecoming celebration held Saturday, October 12, were (front row, from left) Stanley Douglas of Baton Rouge, La., Van Lucas of Newton, Janell McWhirter of Louisville, Davis Comans and Charlotte Moore-Comans, both of Flowood; Ann Burkes of Decatur, and Dr. Jerry White of Morganton, N.C.; (second row, from left) Carole Blount Leach of Clinton, Nelda Risher of Forest, Elaine Moss of Decatur, Ellen Johnson of Forest, D. A. Richardson of Calhoun, Ga., Chester Gardner of Sandhill, and James McWhirter of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Charlie Payne of Florence, Johnny Freeman of Mobile, Ala., Doyle McMullen of Decatur, Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, John Ray of Clinton, David Holder of Louisville, Jerry Magers of Hoover, Ala., and Bernie Whatley of Forest. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart presented "Golden Anniversary" diplomas to the 1963 class members during a ceremony in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. (EC PHOTO)

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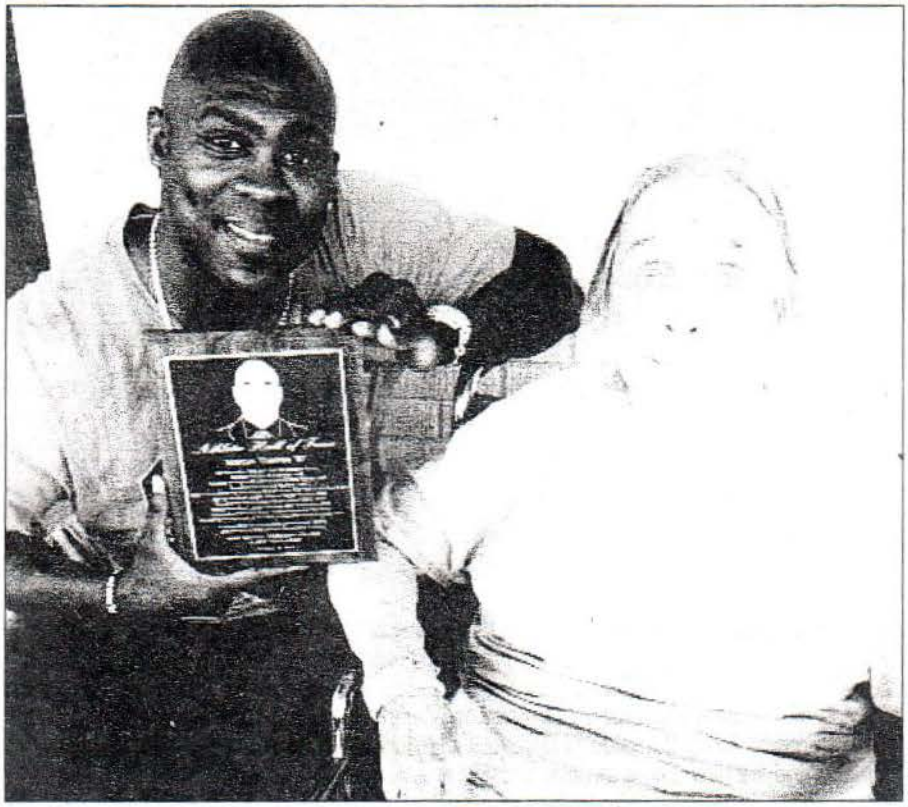
WEEK OF JAN. 3, 2012



ECCC Athletic Hall of Famers Visit

Former Major League Baseball player Marcus Thames visited his former teacher and mentor Lucille Wood following his recent induction in the East Central Community College Athletic Hall of Fame, which also includes the longtime Lady Warrior coach who is recognized as a pioneer in women's athletics. Thames, a Louisville native as is Miss Wood, spent 15 years in Major League Baseball following a stellar career as a member of the late Jamie Clark's Diamond Warrior squad at EC. Thames received NJCAA All-American, All-Region and MACJC All-State honors and helped lead the 1997 Diamond Warriors to a runner-up finish in the state tournament and a berth in the Region 23 Tournament en route to a record 40 season victories. Thames is shown displaying a plaque he received during the induction ceremony held as part of homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 12 on the Decatur campus. Thames is continuing his MLB career as an assistant coach in the New York Yankees' minor league system in Tampa, Fla. (Submitted Photo)

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Residential Carpentry student Tiesha Roberts (left) of Newton assists Winston-Louisville Caree Technical Center student Yemia Griffin-Gill (right) with securing a corner piece during East Centra Community College's annual Nontraditional Conference for Female Students held September 18 2013 on the Decatur campus. During the day's activities, female students participate in hands-o activities and tour programs which typically enroll male students. Additional programs featured includ ed automotive technology, collision repair, computer networking, culinary arts, EMT technology, draft ing and design, surgical technology, hotel/restaurant management and welding. A Nontraditiona Conference for Male students is also held each year. For more information, contact Career-Technica Counselor Amanda Walton at 601-635-6214. The e-mail address is awalton@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

Attend ECCC Nontraditional Conference for Female Students

Cara Bell (left) of Leake County Career Technical Center and Melanie Brashier (right) of Newto County Career Technical Center are shown experimenting with drawing a floor plan with assistan from Drafting and Design student Elizabeth Hunt (standing) of Noxapater during East Centr Community College's annual Nontraditional Conference for Female Students held September 1 2013 on the Decatur campus. During the day's activities, female students participate in hands- activities and tour programs which typically enroll male students. Additional programs featured inclu ed automotive technology, collision repair, computer networking, culinary arts, EMT, residential ca pentry, surgical technology, hotel/restaurant management and welding. A Nontraditional Conferen for Male students is also held each year. For more information, contact Career-Technical Counsel Amanda Walton at 601-635-6214. The e-mail address is awalton@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF NOV 10 2013

East Central Community College

presents

Vicki Blaylock

Vicki Blaylock

ECCC Humanities

Instructor of the Year

"Music: The Ripple Effect"

7 p.m. • November 12, 2013

Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium

This program is sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE P.O. Box 129 • Decatur, MS 39327 1-877-462-3222 • www.eccc.edu

East Central Community College is an equal educational and employment opportunity provider.

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Week of Nov. 10, 2013

ECCC offers chair back seating in 'new' Brackeen-Wood Gym

Reserved chair back seats are now available for purchase for the 2013-14 basketball season at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Cost is $100 for non-ECCC employees and $75 for fulltime ECCC employees and immediate family members.

Individual reserved chair back seating is available on a per-game basis for $9 each and may be purchased at the door of the recently renovated Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Season ticket prices are included in fees for chair back seats, which are offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

All new seating was recently installed in Brackeen-Wood, which was constructed in 1970. The gym floor was also refinished and includes the new athletics logo.

A new scorers' table was among other improvements made at facility.

To purchase season tickets, contact Lori McMullan, administrative assistant to the director of personnel services/athletics, at 601-635-6310, or Chris Harris, director of personnel services/athletic director, at 601-635-6401.

Appeared in:

Carthaginian_____

Newton County Appeal_____

Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat ✓

Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

Clarion-Ledger_____

WEEK OF NOV. 10, 2013

Freeman: 'Veterans best' of America

From ECCC reports

Brigadier General (Ret.) Billy Pierce (seated to left of Major General Freeman) provided the invocation and led the Posting of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance. ECCC President Billy Stewart (left) also provided remarks and welcomed the approximately 40 veterans in attendance. The VA Mobile Health Clinic, provided by the G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson, was available on campus as part of the day's activities.

EC photo

Major General (Ret.) William L. Freeman Jr. of Newton served as guest speaker during a Veterans' Appreciation Breakfast held as part of Veterans' Appreciation Outreach Day Nov. 6 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Major General Freeman, a former Mississippi adjutant general, expressed appreciation to all military veterans for their service at the college-sponsored event. During his remarks, the ECCC alumnus emphasized the importance of remembering "the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month," referring to the end of hostilities during World War I between the Allied Nations and Germany on Nov. 11, 1918.

"Every year on Nov. 11 (Veterans Day), we remember those who share a part of our military history, and those who currently serve our country," said Freeman.

"Our veterans represent the very best of America. To this day's veterans — to the fallen and their families — there is no tribute, no commendation, no praise that can truly match the magnitude of their service and sacrifice. To all our veterans, we say 'thank you,' and may God bless you all."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Nov. 14, 2013

Tickets for ECCC Tony Dungy event on sale

From school reports

Super Bowl Champion coach and best-selling author Tony Dungy will headline a fundraising event for East Central Community College at 7 p.m., March 28, 2014, in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

"Laying the Foundation: An Evening With Coach Tony Dungy" will serve as a fundraiser for a new Football Operations Center on the Decatur campus and will feature a silent auction including sports memorabilia, a meal and comments from Coach Dungy.

Estimated to cost $4.8 million, the new facility will be located in the north end of Bailey Stadium and will include a state-of-the-art weight room and athletic training facility for all student-athletes. Also included in the plans is a $1 million turf field to replace the existing grass surface.

Individual tickets for the special fundraising event are $125 each ($100 per ticket if purchased prior to Dec. 31, 2013) and will be on sale beginning Monday, Dec. 2, through the office of the ECCC Foundation and Alumni Relations. Tickets may also be purchased on-line via the college website at www.eccc.edu or from the following alumni located throughout the college's five-county service area:

- Leake County: Matt Riley (601) 298-0723; Aubry Cox (601) 267-0065;
- Neshoba County: Bob Posey (601) 389-3316; Guy Nowell (601) 575-2752;
- Newton County: Emilie Smith (601) 616-8802; Mark Killens (601) 616-3495;
- Scott County: Granville Freeman (601) 469-0208; Gary Risher (769) 274-7407; and
- Winston County: Speedy Calvert (662) 803-5546.

Information regarding the pick-up/delivery of tickets purchased prior to Dec. 31 will be communicated in January 2014. It is anticipated that tickets will be mailed, picked up from the alumni assisting with ticket sales, or picked up from the ECCC Foundation and Alumni Relations office.

"We are convinced that the completion of this facility and field has the potential to positively affect the future of Warrior athletics for many years," said Billy W. Stewart, ECCC president. "First and foremost, its construction will impact each of the five commitments our institution has made as a component of 2020 Vision. Second, it has the potential to seamlessly connect our athletic facilities to the college and our community the EC Way – Excellence with Class. Third, the construction of this facility will set us apart from our peers and enhance our reputation as a training ground for excellence. And fourth, this facility will provide a place to further develop our student-athletes in all four phases of their life — intellectually, physically, spiritually and socially."

Coach Dungy is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of Quiet Strength and Uncommon. He led the Indianapolis Colts to a Super Bowl victory on Feb. 4, 2007, and established an NFL first by leading his teams to the playoffs for 10 consecutive years.

Dungy has been involved in a wide variety of charitable organizations, including the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Athletes in Action, Mentors for Life, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Clubs, and All Pro Dad.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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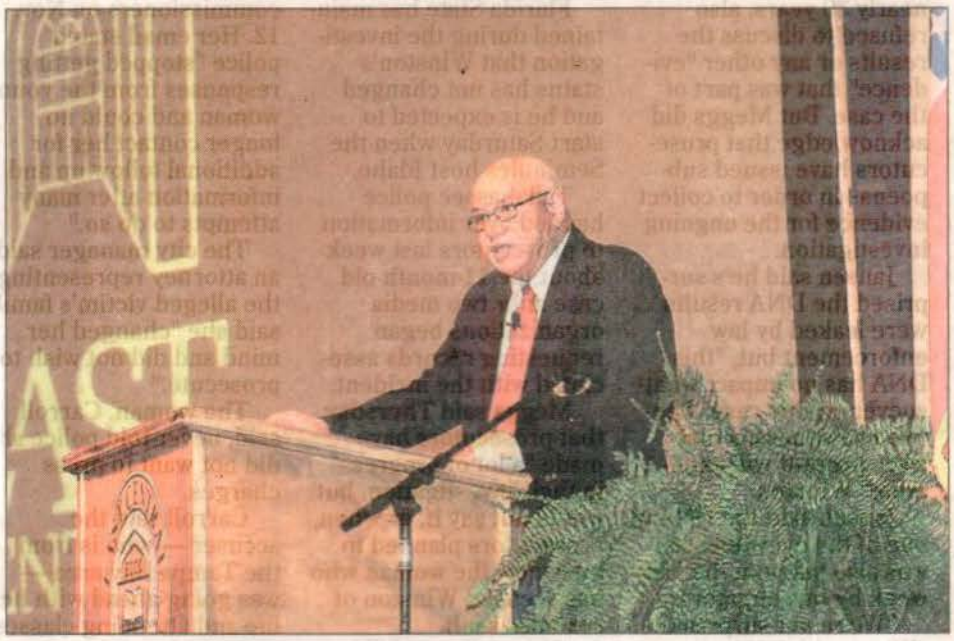
WEEK OF _____

TALKING FOOTBALL



ECCC Photo

Herman Boone, the legendary head football coach at T. C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va., and the inspiration behind the 2000 blockbuster movie Remember the Titans, addresses a packed Huff Auditorium Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013, on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. Coach Boone said his 1971 state champion Titans squad "broke the mold" and showed the world how to become a "team" through adversity. The 1971 Titans were the first integrated team at the school, where controversy developed from the selection of Boone as head coach instead of a popular white coach. "The movie was not about football....but more about the importance of working together as a team to accomplish a goal," Coach Boone stated during his 90-minute presentation, which included a clip from the movie starring two-time Academy Award winner Denzel Washington who portrayed Boone. Coach Boone later participated in a question and answer session led by ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Nov. 27, 2013

'Titans' Coach Boone making memories

Remember the Titans coach Herman Boone autographed footballs and other items following his presentation Wednesday, Nov. 20 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Coach Boone is shown signing footballs for ECCC students Jenny Grove, center, of Forest and Bridgette McFarland of Philadelphia during an autograph/photo session held during a reception in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Coach Boone is the inspiration for the 2000 blockbuster movie starring Denzel Washington in the lead role. The 1971 Titans were the first integrated team at T. C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va., where controversy developed from the selection of Boone as head coach instead of a popular white coach. Boone led the squad to a state championship amid the controversy. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Nov. 24, 2013

EC Healthfest provides 'real' career action

Area high school students who attended East Central Community College's Healthfest 2013 not only received information on the college's health-related programs, but learned what to expect in actual medical emergencies while observing simulated exercises in each area. In the above photo, surgical technology students "perform an operation" on a "wreck victim" while program director/instructor LeAnn Shirley and others observe the procedure. More than 300 high school students from ECCC's five-county district attended the inaugural event held Nov. 8 at the Phil A. Sutphin Associate Degree Nursing/Child Care Technology Building on the Decatur campus. Healthcare programs include associate degree nursing, practical nursing, surgical technology, emergency medical technology and paramedic. For more information, call 601-635-6293 or e-mail dthomas@eccc.edu.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Dec. 8, 2013

Two new memorial scholarships established at East Central Community

Special to The Star

DECATUR – A longtime Scott County educator and a Leake County businessman/civic leader have been honored with scholarships at ECCC to honor their memory.

The Huey G. Stone Memorial Scholarship honors the former Lake High School principal who retired in 1999 following 32 years of service. Stone was a resident of Lake from 1961 until his death this year.

The scholarship was established by family, friends and former students of Mr. Stone in honor of "his love for education, which was spread to thousands of students during his tenure."

Stone graduated from Harperville High School prior to enrolling at ECCC in 1957. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and later earned three master's degrees from Mississippi State University.

The recipient of the Huey G. Stone Memorial Scholarship will be selected annually by the ECCC Scholarship Committee and recognized at the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held each summer.

To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must be a graduate of Lake High School; have a minimum 2.5 grade point average entering ECCC; must be a fulltime student at ECCC and taking classes with an emphasis in education; and must possess leadership qualities. Preference will be given to applicants with a financial need.

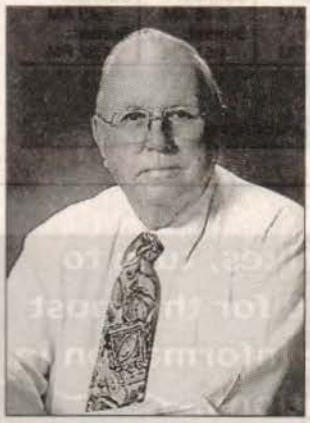
To make contributions to endow the scholarship, contact the ECCC Foundation at (601) 635-6327.

County optometrist and civic leader Dr. Howard Carlton McMillin was recently endowed at East Central Community College.

McMillin began his optometric practice in Carthage in 1958 and continued providing optometric services to residents in central Mississippi until his retirement in 1995.

He was also involved in numerous civic and professional activities throughout his career.

He was a co-founder of Leake Academy in Madden, where he served 12 consecutive years on the Board of Directors. He was also co-founder of the Bank of Central Mississippi and the Leake County Little League Baseball Association. He served as president of the Carthage Lions Club and the Leake County Jaycees. His membership in the Leake County Chamber of Commerce spanned a period of 37 years. He was also a member of the Mississippi State University Agricultural Advisory Council.



Stone

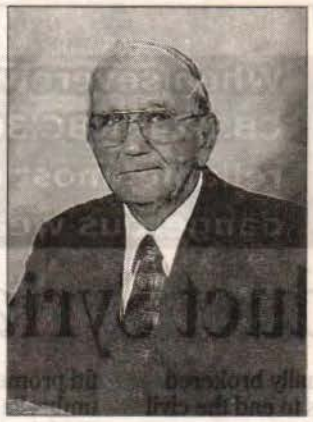
His professional memberships included the American, Mississippi and Central Mississippi Optometric Associations. He was also a member of Carthage United Methodist Church and its Friendship Sunday School Class.

McMillin was an avid and accomplished hunter, fisherman and outdoorsman throughout his life. He shared with many friends his love of hunting, breeding Redbone coonhounds and his second "profession," as a breeder of exotic Simmental cattle. Through these hobbies, he became a trustee of the American Redbone Coonhound Association and served as treasurer of the Mississippi Simmental Association.

He was a 1948 graduate of Louisville High School and attended then ECJC on a football scholarship. He graduated from ECJC in 1950 and received an undergraduate degree in animal science from Mississippi State University in 1952. After two years of active duty in the United States Army, Dr. McMillin completed his education at the University of Houston, where he earned a doctor of optometry degree in 1958.

McMillin often expressed appreciation to ECCC for the opportunity to begin his college education as a result of a football scholarship. He enjoyed visiting the campus to attend football games, Homecoming activities and Warrior Club meetings.

He was inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2010 in recognition of his outstanding career, which was cut short due to a knee injury.



McMillin

McMillin was married for 55 years to the former Shirley Van Hooser of Arcadia, La., when he died in August 2012. They had two children, Lisa and David; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

"We are pleased to endow the Dr. Howard Carlton McMillin Memorial Scholarship at East Central to assist in the education of any freshman or sophomore student who meets the scholarship criteria," said family members.

To qualify, applicants must be a resident of the five-county area served by East Central Community College; must have a financial need; and must maintain a 3.0 grade point average.

Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held each summer.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, (601) 635-6205 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is rlee@eccc.edu

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EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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McMillin behest set up at East C

A scholarship in memory of longtime Leake County optometrist and civic leader Dr. Howard Carlton McMillin has been endowed at East Central Community College.

Dr. McMillin began his optometric practice in Carthage in 1958 and continued providing services until his retirement in 1995.

He was also involved in civic and professional activities throughout his career.

He was a co-founder of Leake Academy in Madden, where he served 12 years on the board of directors.

He was co-founder of the Bank of Central Mississippi and the Leake County Little League Baseball Association.

He served as president of the Carthage Lions Club and the Leake County Jaycees. His membership in the Leake County Chamber of Commerce spanned a period of 37 years.

McMillin was a member of the Mississippi State University Agricultural Advisory Council.

He was a member of Carthage United Methodist Church and its Friendship Sunday School Class.

McMILLIN

Dr. McMillin bred Redbone coonhounds and Simmental cattle, leading to his becoming a trustee of the American Redbone Coonhound Association and treasurer of the Mississippi Simmental Association.

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For more informat telephone 601-635-6 or, toll free, 877-4 3222, ext. 205, or er rlee@eccc.edu

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WEEK OF Dec. 15, 2013

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ECCC PHOTO

EC COLLECTS 'TOYS FOR TOTS'

Several boxes of toys and other gifts were recently collected by East Central Community College staff members and students for the annual Toys for Tots campaign sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps League. The Decatur campus project was coordinated by the Career-Technical Division and led by SkillsUSA. Shown with the more than 500 items to be distributed to needy children are from left to right, EC freshman William Minter of Lena, SkillsUSA president; Sherri Cliburn, SkillsUSA sponsor; Ray Trepanier of Flowood and EC alumnus Andrew Gardner of Richland, both from the Central Mississippi Detachment Unit 173.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

K OF Dec. 15, 2013

NFL Super Bowl coach Dungy to visit East Central CC as part of benefit

Tickets available at reduced rate until Dec. 31

DECATUR — Super Bowl Champion coach and best-selling author Tony Dungy will headline a fundraising event for East Central Community College at 7 p.m., March 28, 2014, in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

"Laying the Foundation: An Evening With Coach Tony Dungy" will serve as a fundraiser for a new Football Operations Center on the Decatur campus and will feature a silent auction including sports memorabilia, a meal and comments from Coach Dungy.

Estimated to cost $4.8 million, the new facility will be located in the north end of Bailey Stadium and will include a state-of-the-art weight room and athletic training facility for all student-athletes. Also included in the plans is a $1 million turf field to replace the existing grass surface.

Individual tickets for the special fundraising event are $125 each ($100 per ticket if purchased prior to December 31, 2013) are on sale through the office of the ECCC Foundation and Alumni Relations. Tickets may also be purchased on-line via the college website at www.eccc.edu or from the following alumni located throughout the college's five-county service area:

Scott County: Granville Freeman (601) 469-3011; Gary Risher (769) 274-7407.

Information regarding the pick-up/delivery of tickets purchased prior to December 31 will be communicated in January 2014. It is anticipated that tickets will be mailed, picked up from the alumni assisting with ticket sales, or picked up from the ECCC Foundation and Alumni Relations office.

"We are convinced that the completion of this facility and field has the potential to positively affect the future of Warrior athletics for many years," said Dr. Billy W. Stewart, ECCC President. "First and foremost, its construction will impact each of the five commitments our institution has made as a component of 2020 Vision. Second, it has the potential to seamlessly connect our athletic facilities to the college and our community the EC Way - Excellence with Class. Third, the construction of this facility will set us apart from our peers and enhance our reputation as a training ground for excellence. And fourth, this facility will provide a place to further develop our student-athletes in all four phases of their life - intellectually, physically, spiritually and socially."

Coach Dungy is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Quiet Strength and Uncommon*. He led the Indianapolis Colts to a Super Bowl victory on February 4, 2007, and established an NFL first by leading his teams to the playoffs for 10 consecutive years.

Dungy has been involved in a wide variety of charitable organizations, including the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Clubs, and others.

He retired from coaching in 2008 and now serves as an analyst for NBC's Football Night in America.

For more information on opportunities to serve as a sponsor for the event, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, at 601-635-6327 or by email at sholling@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN
NEWTON COUNTY TIMES
SPIRIT OF MORTON COUNTY JOURNAL
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WEEK OF Dec. 15, 2013

EC again among fastest growing colleges

From school reports

For the second straight year, East Central Community College in Decatur is included in the list of 25 Fastest Growing Community Colleges in the United States, according to the Dec. 9, issue of Community College Week, a national publication located in Selmer, Tenn.

East Central was ranked 20th in the list of two-year institutions with student enrollments from 2,500 to 4,999.

Information for the report involved enrollment comparisons from 2011 to 2012, when East Central's enrollment actually dropped from 2,675 to 2,494, a decrease of seven percent.

ECCC President Billy Stewart said the slight enrollment decrease does not diminish the college's success in attracting students, especially when compared to other state institutions.

"Although we dropped from sixth to 20th on this year's list, East Central is one of only two community colleges in the state of Mississippi still on any list at all," said Stewart. "And even though our enrollment dipped as did so many others, it was not as significant as other institutions, which allowed us to remain on this prestigious list. Our inclusion in publications highlighting the work of our nation's community colleges goes a long way in realizing our vision of national recognition as a premier community college."

East Central Community College received national recognition earlier in the year by Washington Monthly, which included the college in its 2013 College Guide's rankings of America's Best Community College. EC was ranked 23rd in the annual report.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC honors fall sports athletes at banquet

Numerous awards and honors were presented to East Central Community College football and soccer players and cheerleaders at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held earlier this month in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart recognized academic award winners in each sport and provided comments. Additional awards were presented by coaches of the respective sports. Athletic Director Chris Harris served as master of ceremonies.

In football, award winners and their respective high schools include running back Lamarcus Franks, a product of Greene County High School, most valuable player and offensive captain award; running back Martin Johnson of Nanih Waiya, academic award; defensive lineman Daryl Rogers of Laurel, most improved defensive player; defensive back JaDerrick Farrow, a product of Bleckley County High School in Cochran, Ga., defensive captain award; and wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell of Columbus, most improved offensive player.

Head coach Ken Karcher and assistants Cody Wilson, Todd Bates, Charles Jones and Eric Gray presented awards. Sophomore players were recognized by assistant coaches Mickey Mays and Scott Brock.

Receiving honors in women's soccer were Miranda Clark of Neshoba Central, hustle award; Paige Gower of Clarkdale, team captain, defense award and MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kenney Castleberry, also of Clarkdale, academic award, Warrior Award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Florence High School product Alana Turner of Mendenhall, academic award, most valuable player, MACJC All-Star Game MVP, honorable mention MACJC All-State and recipient of the Halbrook Award, presented to the outstanding female and male student-athlete in the MACJC; and Ashlan Culberson of Brandon, honorable mention MACJC All-State and Golden Boot Award, presented to the team's top scorer. Culberson scored six goals and had one assist for a total 13 points.

Head coach Gray Massey presented awards and recognized sophomore team members.

Awards in men's soccer went to Jesse Vaughn, a product of Newton County High School, defensive player award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Taylor Potter of Bentonia and a product of the MS School for Math and Science, team captain award, Warrior Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kennon Craft of Clinton, hustle award; Zack Killion, a product of South Oldham High School in Crestwood, Ky., honorable mention MACJC All-State; Clint McGraw of Tupelo Christian Prep., honorable mention MACJC All-State; Matt Taylor of Clarkdale, honorable mention MACJC All-State; Jordan Walker of Newton County, academic award, defensive award and MACJC All-State; Russ Thompson of Newton County, most valuable player, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; and Will Thompson of Newton County, All-Region 23, MACJC All-State, MACJC All-Star and Golden Boot Award, presented to the team's top scorer. Thompson scored six goals and had two assists for a total 14 points. He was the fourth leading scorer in the MACJC North Division and finished 16th overall. He also qualified as an NJCAA All-American nominee.

Head coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards and recognized sophomore players.

Presented awards in cheerleading were Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya, Academic Award; Hannah Kemp of Leake Academy, Captain Award; Darrin Hillman of Sebastopol, Warrior Award; Payton Smith of Scott Central, Coach's Award; and Maxie Parker of Noxapater, Warrior Award.

Cheer coach Pam McKnight presented awards and recognized sophomore cheerleaders.

For more information on ECCC Athletics, contact Athletic Director Chris Harris, 601-635-6401 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 401. The email address is charris@eccc.edu.

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APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF January 6, 2013

Patrick Reese

Local athletes honored at EC

Members of East Central Community College's football team received special recognition at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held December 5, 2012, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.

Athletic Director Chris Harris provided remarks and recognized coaches and players for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart also paid tribute to coaches and players and presented academic award recipients in each sport.

Football players from Scott County who received awards included offensive lineman Shaquille Patrick of Scott Central, MACJC All-Star and second team MACJC All-State; and defensive back Za Reese of Morton, MACJC All-Star.

The Warriors completed the 2012 campaign with a 3-6 overall mark and finished 2-4 in the MACJC South Division.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 6, 2013

ECCC close to hiring new head football coach for '13

East Central Community College is narrowing down its search for a new head football coach.

ECCC spokesman Bubby Johnston confirmed Monday that the search committee has concluded its interviews over the weekend.

Johnston said that more than 20 people inquired about the position but added he did not know who or how many candidates actually interviewed for the job.

Johnston said the new coach should be announced later this week or early next week.

He will replace Brian Anderson, whose contract was not renewed.

In other ECCC news, the golf team is offering Boston Butts and/or racks of ribs as a fundraising project, announced Chris Clark, golf coach.

Cost for either item is $25 or both may be purchased for $45, as the "Hole in One" special.

Clark said delivery is scheduled Thursday, Jan. 31, "just in time for the Super Bowl!"

For more information, contact Coach Chris Clark, 601-917-7396 or e-mail cclark@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 20, 2013

Sources: East Central to name Ken Karcher head coach

By Tony Tsoukalas
The Meridian Star

The search for the next head football coach at East Central Community College has come to a close, as sources confirmed to The Meridian Star Thursday, the college is set to announce former Eastern Michigan offensive coordinator Ken Karcher as head coach during a 2:30 p.m. press conference on Friday.

Karcher took the job as offensive coordinator at Eastern Michigan in January of 2009. During his four seasons at EMU, Karcher helped coach the Eagles to a 10-38 record.

Karcher was also the head coach at Liberty University in Virginia from 2000 until 2005, where he led the Flames to 21-46 record, including two second-place finishes in the Big South Conference. He served as the quarterbacks coach at Toledo in 2008, helping to lead the Rockets to a 13-10 upset of Michigan in 2008.

On Jan. 15, Karcher took the head coaching job at King's Academy in Knoxville, Tenn. However, Karcher announced in a press release Wednesday, he would not coach the team for the upcoming season.

"It is with deep regret that our family will not be joining The King's Academy family," Karcher said in the release to the Knoxville News Sentinel . "We appreciate everything that the school did to accommodate our family. After much prayer and consideration we decided that our current family dynamics require us to pursue other opportunities."

Karcher will replace Brian Anderson as head coach and will look to help the Warriors improve from a 3-6 finish last season.

The Press Conference is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. in Thrash Auditorium, located in Newton Hall on the Decatur campus.

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WEEK OF January 27, 2013

Karcher Named ECCC Head Football Coach

Ken Karcher (left) was introduced as East Central Community College's new head football coach by ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart during a Press Conference held Friday, Jan. 25, 2013, on the Decatur campus. Karcher, a former NFL quarterback and longtime collegiate coach, becomes the 21st coach to lead East Central's football program. Coach Karcher previously served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Eastern Michigan University. He officially begins his new duties Monday, Jan. 28. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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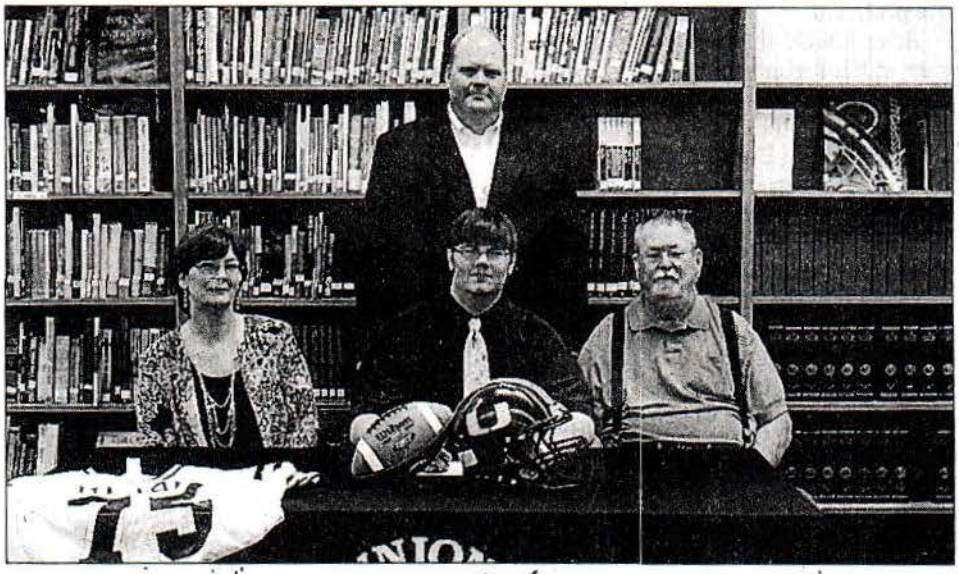
WEEK OF February 3, 2013

Two Philadelphia High School standouts signed letters-of-intent Wednesday to continue their football careers. Dustin Sullivan, left, signed with Holmes Community College and Anthony Triplett, right, signed with East Central Community College.

submitted photo



Union High School's John Parker signed a letter-of-intent Wednesday to continue his football career at East Central Community College.

submitted photo

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WEEK OF February 3, 2013

East Central looks to make waves with new class

By Tony Tsoukalas
ttsoukalas@themeridianstar.com

East Central Community College head coach Ken Karcher will be the first one to tell you, the Warriors have some ground to make up in the MACJC. Karcher, who was hired by ECCC on Jan. 25, knew it would be tough to put together a signing class by Wednesday's National Signing Day.

However, Wednesday Karcher and the ECCC coaching staff appeared to take a step in the right direction, signing 16 players to the to the Warriors 2013 class.

"The credit goes really to the three men, Blake Frazier, Kyle Watson and Webb Hamilton," Karcher said. "They did a great job of keeping things together with not having a head coach for so long. We tried to get as many good kids as we could. Time will tell, but they did a very nice job of keeping this thing together."

While he has not had the full amount of time to scout each of ECCC's 16 signees, Karcher said he was pleasantly surprised with the class the Warriors have put together.

Of the 16 members signees, four area athletes make up the 2013 class. Defensive lineman Demetre McCleon (Newton County), offensive lineman Jon Parker (Union), defensive back Anthony Triplett (Philadelphia) and defensive lineman Anthony McGee (Quitman) will all be playing for the Warriors next season.

East Central CC signing list

Player	High School	Hometown
Andy Morris (OL, 6'2, 250)	Amite School	Liberty
Virzil Tillman (RB, 6'0, 190)	Laurel	Laurel
Demetre McCleon (DL, 5'10, 250)	Newton County	Decatur
Chris Washington (WR, 6'5, 205)	Lake	Lake
Todd Dupre' (OL, 6'3, 280)	Simpson Academy	Mendenhall
Jon Parker (OL, 6', 300)	Union	Union
Anthony Triplett (CB, 5'9, 170)	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
Jimmy Saulsberry (WR, 6'1, 180)	Starkville	Starkville
Edward Delee (OL, 6'5", 290)	Centreville Aca.	Clinton, La.
Thomas McCool (LB, 6', 200)	Neshoba Central	Philadelphia
Xavier Woodard (DL, 6', 335)	Jim Hill	Jackson
Isaiah Williams (LB, 6'4", 215)	Jim Hill	Jackson
Sheppard Jones (DB, 6', 180)	Lanier	Jackson
Anthony McGee (DE, 6'2, 235)	Quitman	Quitman
Brody Martin (OL, 6'2", 230)	Marshall Academy	Red Banks
Xavier Telfort (DL, 6', 280)	Northwest Rankin	Brandon

Perhaps the biggest get of the day for the Warriors was Triplett, who had 11 interceptions and two fumble recoveries for Philadelphia last season. Often overshadowed by Clarion Ledger Dandy Dozen teammate Montreal Jordan, Triplett was the driving force of the Tornadoes defense the past two seasons, leading the team in interceptions in both his junior and senior season.

"Based on what coaches have told me and the little bit of film I have seen on him, he is a very exciting player," Karcher said. "He is a player that can come in and help us right away and have a nice future. We are expecting big things from him."

While the signing of Triplett was a pleasant surprise to some Warrior fans, Karcher said he expects ECCC to go toe-to-toe with some of the bigger programs in the MACJC and contend each year for the state's best athletes each year.

"We are well aware that we have our work cut out for us," Karcher said. "But the staff we have assembled here is a staff that has been around the block a little bit, and we do a good job of evaluating and selling what we believe in, which is building a whole person."

One area of need the Warriors have not address yet is at the quarterback position.

With the departure of Colton Kane, ECCC is left without a quarterback on its roster.

Karcher said he and his staff are still hard at work trying to put together the rest of ECCC's class and hinted he expects fans to be pleased with who the Warriors find at quarterback.

"We are still looking for quarterbacks," Karcher said. "I think we will have that answered shortly, and I think you will be quite surprised."

ECCC has struggled to keep up with rival East Mississippi Community College in recent years, much in part to EMCC's upgraded facilities. Karcher said ECCC has plans to upgrade its facilities in the future. In the meantime, he expects to compete with the state's top schools and change the culture of the program at ECCC.

"There will be new facilities at East Central," Karcher said. "That is one of the things Dr. (Billy) Stewart and I have talked about. You are going to see things change here. But I hope that East Central is not only known for having good facilities down the road. I think there are going to be special things that happen here that the eye may not always see, but the heart of human beings will be changed."

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WEEK OF February 11, 2013

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East Central signs four more to 2013 class

By Tony Tsoukalas
The Meridian Star

East Central Community College announced the signing of 16 new players to the 2013 class on Wednesday. Since then, head coach Ken Karcher and his staff have been hard at work, as they have added four more future Warriors to the class.

Joining the 2013 class will be defensive lineman Romario Cobb (Ocean Springs HS); defensive end Jeremy Pyles (Oxford HS, Ala.); safety Blake Gordon (NW Rankin HS) and quarterback Jacori Taylor (Early County HS. Ga.).

Highlighting the group is Taylor, who gives the Warriors a much-needed answer at the quarterback position. The 6-foot-3, 225-pound quarterback gives East Central a dual-threat on offense, as Taylor has shown the ability to beat defenders in the air or use his frame to bowl over them on the ground.

"He's a good looking kid," Karcher said. "He runs very well and throws the ball well. He is a guy that we think that can help us at the present time with where we are as a program. We are pretty excited about him."

Cobb was a force for Ocean Springs last season, totaling 97 tackles, eight sacks 15 tackles for a loss and 12 hurries while forcing three fumbles. Gordon recorded 49 tackles, 14 assists and two tackles for a loss for Northwest Rankin last year.

"Romario is a guy that fits another need for us, which is the defensive line position," Karcher said. We like what we have seen from him on film, and he should be able to come in and help us.

"We feel Blake is a guy that can come in and is a good football player. He's somebody you would classify as a football player, and we need a lot of football players on this team."

WEEK OF February 21, 2013

McCool signs with ECCC

Neshoba Central football standout, Thomas McCool, signed to continue his career at East Central Community College. While at NC the 6'1", 215 pound senior played LB/Long Snapper positions. His season totals/accomplishments were 139 tackles, 2 interceptions, All-Division 2-5/A, and 2nd Team 5A All-State. Seated, from left, mother, Pam McCool; Thomas McCool, father; and Tommy McCool; and standing are Asst. Principal Jimmy Buchanan, Rocket Head Football Coach Chuck Friend, and Asst. Principal LaShon Horne. Congratulations Thomas!

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WEEK OF March 10, 2013

Multi-sport standout Pace signs with EC

By Austin Bishop
sports@newtoncountyappeal.com

Chris Gale is not a bit bashful when singing the accolades of Tyler Pace.

"Tyler is a monster athlete," said Gale, the first-year head football coach at Newton High School. "East Central got a real good deal. Really better than they know."

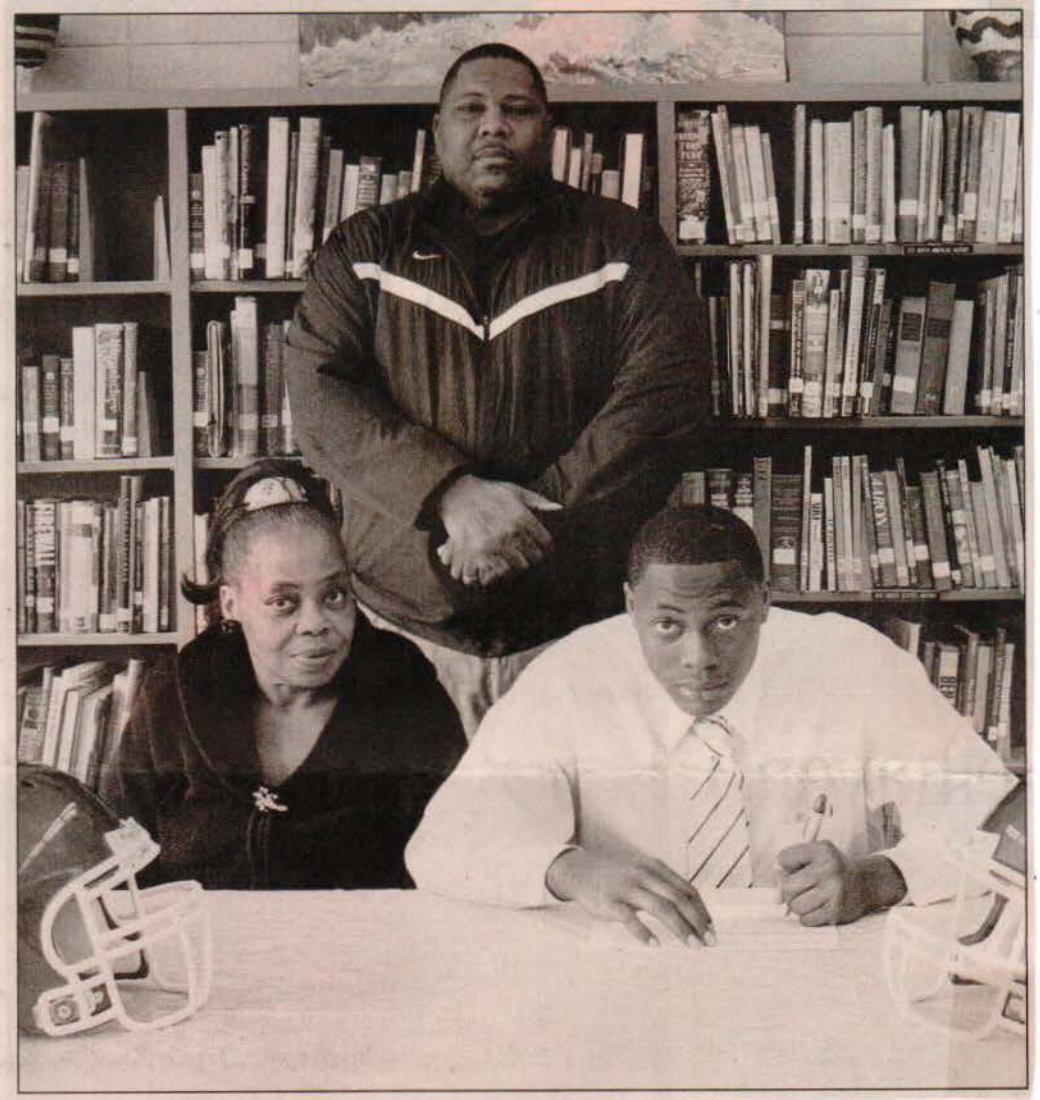
ECCC signed Pace, a standout offensive and defensive lineman for Newton, late last week in a ceremony at the NHS library. Pace not only led the Tigers on the football field, but was the leading scorer for the basketball team and is one of the key hitters for the baseball team.

"He is just a big, naturally strong athlete," Gale said of the 6-foot-3, 250-pound Pace. "Once he gets to college and concentrates on just one sport and really works on it, he is going to be a really good one."

While Pace played on the defensive and offensive lines for the Tigers, he is being looked at on the offensive side as a tight end by the Warriors of East Central. Pace said it was also mentioned that he might considered as a linebacker.

"Right now they just know they need him on the field and where they need the most help at is on the offensive line," Gale said.

"I really have liked playing all sports," Pace said. "I guess I'm more of a football player now, but I just enjoy playing." He has been a fixture on the NHS football team since the ninth grade.



Newton's Tyler Pace signs with East Central Community College at a ceremony at the Newton High School library last week. Pace is joined by his mother and coach Chris Gale.

"Basketball has helped me," Gale said. "It helps me get my coordination and balance down."

Gale said playing at East Central is something he was hoping to get a chance to do.

"I have always liked the school and am excited to get the opportunity to play there and go to school there," he said. Pace said he was considering either being a coach or studying to become a computer engineer.

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WEEK OF March 10, 2013

Monroe signs with ECCC

Neshoba Central senior William (K.D.) Monroe signed to continue his football career at East Central Community College. While at NC he played defensive end. His season totals were 51 tackles and three blocked kicks. Pictured are seated, from left, James Savage Sr., K.D. Monroe, Nikki Savage and Jhanea Beans; standing are Asst. Principal Jimmy Buchanan, Rocket Head Football Coach Chuck Friend, Principal John Bowen, Asst. Principal LaShon Horne, and Jamian Savage.

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WEEK OF March 31, 2013

Scott Brock named ECCC defensive coordinator

From school reports

Scott Brock

A longtime football coach whose resume includes several championships takes over as defensive coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Scott Brock, who has 25 years coaching experience on the high school, community college and university levels, was recently named to the post by new Warrior head football coach Ken Karcher.

Brock, who began his new duties on March 1, 2013, not only brings a wealth of experience and success to the coaching staff; he will also serve as a mentor to Warrior student-athletes, according to Coach Karcher.

"Coach Brock will bring an expertise to our program on the defensive side of the ball that will help East Central be successful," said Coach Karcher. "More importantly, he will play a major role in impacting the lives of our student athletes. I am confident that East Central Community College will be a better place because of Scott Brock and his family."

Brock began his career as a student assistant defensive coach at the University of Tennessee from 1985-86. He also had coaching stints at the University of Memphis (1986-88), Carson-Newman College, located in Jefferson City, Tenn. (1988-90); Charlotte (N.C.) Barons of the Minor Football League, 1990; Brentwood (Tenn.) High School, (1993-95); Barrien County High School in Nashville, Ga., (1995-96); Centennial High School in Franklin, Tenn. (1996-98), Middle Georgia College in Cochran, GA (1998-2001), Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. (2001-03), Charlton County High School in Folkston, Ga. (2003-08); and Hilliard Middle Senior High in Hilliard, Fla., where he served since 2008 as director of athletics, head track coach, defensive coordinator and special team's coordinator.

Brock helped lead several teams to

ECCC from page B1

championships during his career.

He served as secondary coach and later receivers and tight ends coach when Carson-Newman College won consecutive NAIA National Championships (1988-89). He was special team's coordinator during the Charlotte Barons championship season (1990) in the Minor League Football System. Brock served as defensive coordinator and special team's coordinator when Charlton County (Ga.) High School captured its first State AA Championship in 2004. While at Charlton County High School, Brock also served as head track coach and led the squad to back-to-back AA State Championships in 2005 and 2006.

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WEEK OF April 28, 2013

SUBMITTED PHOTO

WASHINGTON SIGNS WITH ECCC

Lake Hornets' Chris Washington, seated in center, recently signed a national letter of intent to play football at East Central Community College. Participating in the signing event were, seated from left: Sade' Washington (sister), Chris Washington, Lettie Love (mother). Back: Principal Shane Phillips, Lake head football coach Jeff Breland.

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WEEK OF May 29, 2013

Mays named offensive coordinator at ECCC

From school reports

Mickey Mays was recently named offensive coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced head football coach Ken Karcher.

Mays is a former assistant to Coach Karcher, having served on his Liberty University staff as defensive line coach and special teams coordinator.

Karcher said he looks forward to working with his former assistant and what he brings to the Warrior football program.

"Coach Mays is someone I trust and respect as a football coach," said Karcher. "He does a great job teaching the fundamentals of the game to his players and is someone who cares about the whole person. I am excited that Mickey has agreed to become a part of my staff and help East Central build a first-class program."

Mays has 30 years coaching experience on the high school, college and professional levels.

He began his career in 1982 as a secondary coach at Milan High School in Milan, Tenn.

His high school coaching experience also includes stints as secondary coach at Humboldt (Tenn.) High School (1985); head coach at Chester County High School in Henderson, Tenn. (1990-91), where he was named 1991 District Coach of the Year; head coach at Cordova (Tenn.) High School; and defensive coordinator/offensive line coach at Sequatchie County High School in Dunlap, Tenn.

Mays entered the collegiate coaching ranks as a graduate assistant at the University of Tennessee-Martin (defensive ends) in 1986, then Memphis State University (offensive line/tight ends) in 1987-88, and Louisiana State University (running backs) in 1989.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Mays served as defensive assistant with the Virginia Destroyers of the United Football League in 2012.

ments will be provided.

EC softball camp scheduled June 3-5

The annual East Central Community College Softball Camp will be held June 3-5 on the Decatur campus.

Activities are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day of the instructional clinic, which is designed for third- through sixth-grade students.

Cost is $60 per camper, which includes insurance. For more information, contact Coach Kristin Chaney, 601-635-6301 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 301. Her e-mail address is kchaney@eccc.edu.

Former EC football players invited to event

Former East Central Community College football players are encouraged to attend the first annual meeting of Warrior Football Alumni and meet new head coach Ken Karcher.

The event is scheduled from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 30, in the Brackeen-Wood

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WEEK OF July 25, 2013

ECCC Photo

East Central running back Martin Johnson takes the ball against Jones County Junior College during the 2012 season.

Into the fire

East Central, Karcher to be tested early in '13

By Sarah Moomaw
smoomaw@themeridianstar.com

The 2013 season hasn't kicked off, but on paper — and to first year head coach Ken Karcher — it looks to be a battle for the East Central Community College Warriors after the school released its 2013 schedule.

Ken Karcher

"Every week will be a challenge," Karcher said. "What I've tried to challenge our young men is that we'll take one game at a time and prepare ourselves mentally to do what we can do, but we'll have to give great effort in the games."

East Central faces a tough schedule, facing multiple top-ranked teams according to the JCGridiron.com poll. The Warriors finished the 2012 season at 3-6 (2-4 South Division).

"We are going to be going against some great teams with some longer traditions than we have," Karcher said. "It's going to be a challenge. There's nobody on our schedule that I will say, 'Oh boy, that's an easy win!'"

The Warriors' starters will head to the 50-yard line to open the season at No. 19 Itawamba in Fulton on Thursday, Aug. 29. The following two weeks won't get any easier as Week 2 takes them into Scooba for No. 6 East Mississippi on Sept. 5.

"That's probably not the way you want to start your season," Karcher said.

Copiah-Lincoln, the defending MACJA Champions, will travel to Decatur for the home opener on Thursday, Sept. 12, as the first of four home games this season.

Other visitors to Bailey Stadium include Jones County Junior College on October 3, Mississippi Delta on Saturday, Oct. 12, for homecoming and preseason No. 1 Mississippi Gulf Coast to closeout the regular season on Oct. 24.

See **ECCC** on page B2

July 25, 201

ECCC from page B1

Gulf Coast is topping the rankings after a 9-2 season but missed the NJCAA bowl schedule. East Mississippi, Delta and Itawamba are the Warriors opponents from the North Division.

The Warriors will hit the road in weeks five and six, heading to Southwest on Sept. 19 and Hinds on Sept. 26. Their final trip will be to Pearl River for their homecoming on Saturday, Oct. 19.

It may be his first season at the Juco level, but Karcher isn't lacking the experience. He has been coaching for 22 years after finishing up a four-year stint at Eastern Michigan University as the offensive coordinator and quarterback coach.

Karcher said he is excited to get into the new level, but with a realistic attitude about the youth of the team, but with hope for the future.

A new coaching staff is generally a shake up, but 45 incoming freshmen will mean that the majority of the team is new to Juco football.

"It makes you a lot nervous, we have a long way to go and like I said, it's going to be a great challenge," Karcher said. "Hopefully, we won't make many mistakes and improve each week and put ourselves in position to win games at the end."

WEEK OF August 2, 2013

ECCC visit

ECCC Football Alumni Meet

Former East Central Community College football players gathered earlier this summer on the Decatur campus to meet new head coach Ken Karcher and show support for the Warrior football program. Coach Karcher presented his vision and goals for success and offered levels of financial support, "The Coaches 20," to the former players for consideration. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart also provided remarks and expressed appreciation to the former Warrior standouts for their support. He also discussed plans to improve facilities as funding is available. Other speakers included offensive coordinator Mickey Mays and defensive coordinator Scott Brock, who related their respective philosophies for success. Pictured are (seated from left) Phil Smith, Decatur; Jeff Breland, Lake; Pete Lucovich, Carthage; Wilmer James, Morton; Earl Marshall, Hattiesburg; Van Lucas, Newton; Tony Henderson, Hattiesburg;Dr. Stewart; Coach Karcher; Steve Moorehead, Union; Guy Nowell, Philadelphia; and Jerry Johnson, Carthage; and (standing from left) Coach Mayes; Kyle Watson, Decatur; Tod Wall, Brandon; Ricky Harrison and Dr. Randall Lee, both of Decatur; Mark Killens and Pat Kirby, both of Newton; Chris Perry, Decatur; Chris Rowell, Philadelphia; Mike Moorehead and Brad Breland, both of Union; Coach Brock; and Chris Harris, Decatur. For more information on levels of financial support, contact Coach Ken Karcher, 601-635-6107 or email kkarcher@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF August 8, 2013

Warriors picked sixth in poll

According to a preseason coaches poll by *Mississippi Gridiron*, the East Central Warriors are expected to finish in a tie for sixth place in the MACJC's South Division.

Gulf Coast and Co-Lin were picked as the top two teams in the division by coaches, while East Mississippi and Northeast were seen as the favorites in the North Division.

East Central Warriors' are in their first season with head coach Ken Karcher.

Gulf Coast enters the season as the nation's preseason number one team, according to JCGridiron's Dirty Thirty poll.

Under head coach Steve Campbell, Gulf Coast has reached the MACJC title game in sixth consecutive seasons.

East Mississippi, meanwhile, is ranked sixth in the nation according to the same poll.

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WEEK OF Aug. 11, 2015

Wilson joins ECCC football staff

From school reports

Cody Wilson was recently named an assistant football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Wilson serves as tight ends and running backs coach, announced first-year head coach Ken Karcher.

Prior to joining the Warrior staff, Wilson was an assistant coach at his alma mater, Louisiana College in Pineville, La., where he held various positions since 2011, including assistant offensive line coach/strength and conditioning assistant; tight ends coach; and most recently assistant defensive backs coach.

Wilson was a three-year starter on the offensive line for the Louisiana College Wildcats from 2007-2010.

He graduated with a double major from Louisiana College in 2012, earning degrees in mathematics education and applied mathematics with concentration in economics and finance.

Wilson, a native of Kentwood, La., graduated valedictorian from Jewel Sumner High School in 2007, where he was also a standout football player. The four-year letterwinner was an All-State selection and three-time recipient of All-District honors. He was also a Wendy's High School Heisman Top 10 state finalist.

Wilson is the son of Jesse and Tammy W. Strickland and Melanie Wilson, all of Kentwood, La. He is the grandson of Fay W. Simmons of Magnolia, MS and the late Lowell (Whip) Wilson of Kentwood.

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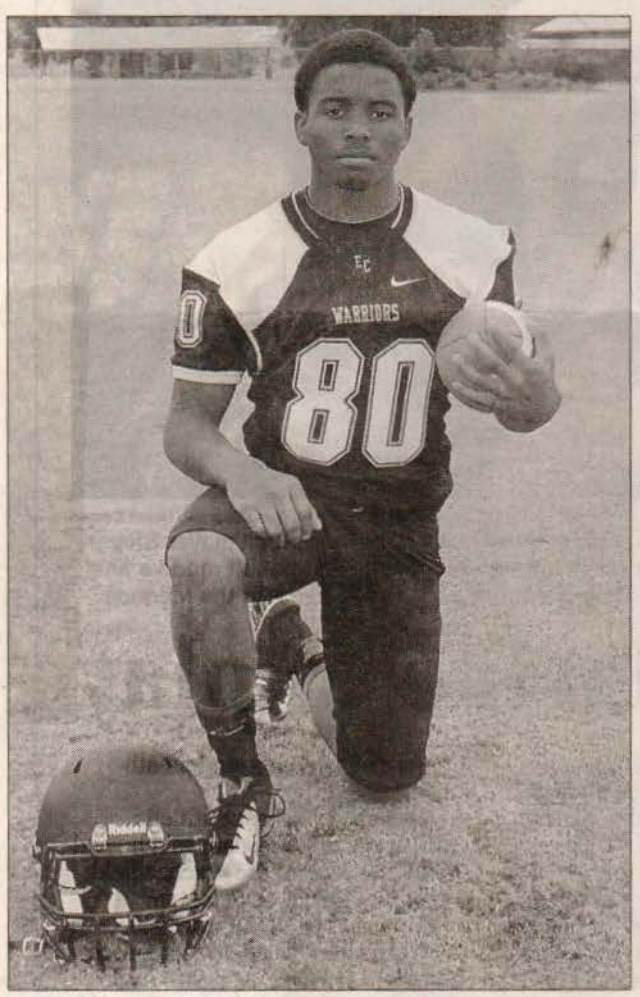
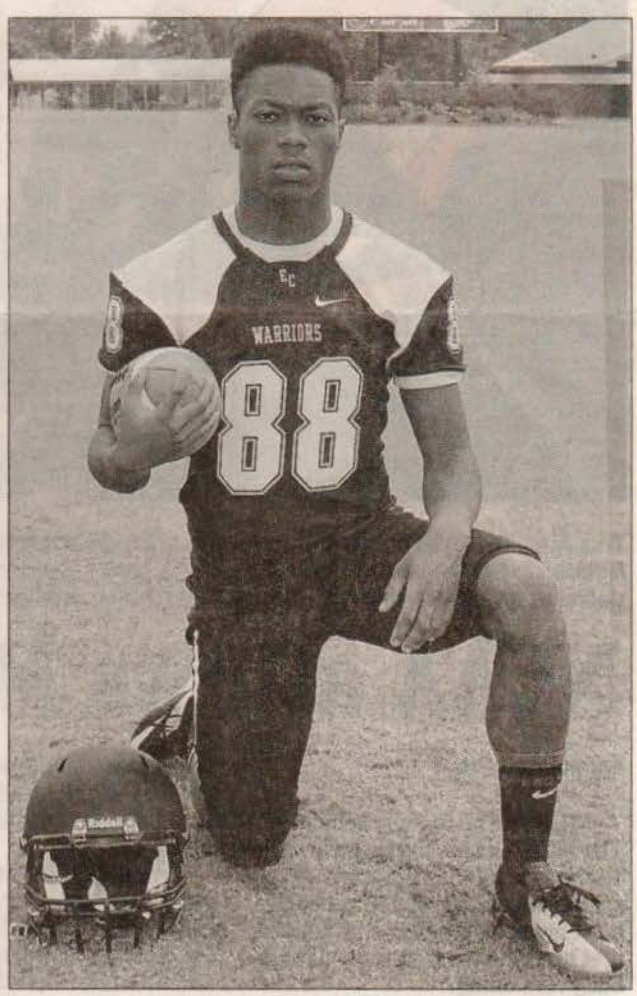
WEEK OF Aug. 18, 2013

WARRIORS TO FOLLOW





ECCC Photo

Zachary Bobbitt (80) and Desmond Grayson (88) of Meridian are membera of the 2013 East Central Community College football squad. The freshman wide receivers are former standout at Meridian High School. The ECCC Warriors are led by first-year head coach Ken Karcher in Decatur.

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WEEK OF 5-15-13

ECCC Football Warriors

These former football standouts from Scott County schools are members of the 2013 East Central Community College football squad. From left are linebacker Chris Washington (47) of Lake, and tight end/wide receiver Wesley Smith (83) and tight end Lucas Morgan (85), both of Morton. The ECCC Warriors are led by first-year head coach Ken Karcher. (EC Photo)

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East Central Warriors

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8-18-13

(continued from previous page)

Workouts are under way for the East Central Community College football squad in preparation for the 2013 campaign. The Warriors, shown during a recent intrasquad scrimmage, begin season action by traveling to Itawamba Community College Thursday, August 29. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Fulton campus. East Central is led by first-year head coach Ken Karcher. (EC Photo)

(continued from previous page)

8-18-13

New staff, young Warriors

A new coaching staff and a mostly freshman squad will take the field when East Central Community College's Warriors officially begin the 2013 campaign at 7 p.m. Thursday, August 29 on the Itawamba Community College campus in Fulton.

Despite the challenges, first-year head coach Ken Karcher said the "new look" Warriors "hope to build a first-class program that will be competitive on a weekly basis."

"We are very young but I am pleased with the first Warrior football team our staff has assembled," said Coach Karcher. "We have a talented and very dedicated group of young men who will well represent East Central Community College and its many alumni. We look forward to competing in the always tough MS JUCO League."

EC's first "challenge" of the 2013 season will be outside the JUCO ranks. The Warriors and Belhaven University Blazers will scrimmage Friday, August 16, beginning at 4:30 p.m. on the Belhaven field in Jackson.

Karcher, a 22-year coaching veteran and former NFL quarterback, spent the previous four seasons at Eastern Michigan University, serving as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.

> "No matter what level, coaching is a life-changing business, and we look forward to helping these young men be the best football players they can be and to help them further their career at a four-year institution or beyond. That's what coaching is: changing lives."
> *--Ken Karcher*

Although East Central represents his first stint in the JUCO league, Karcher said he looks forward to the opportunity.

"No matter what level, coaching is a life-changing business, and we look forward to helping these young men be the best football players they can be, and to help them further their career at a four-year institution or beyond," said Coach Karcher. "That's what coaching is: changing lives."

Serving on Coach Karcher's staff are Mickey Mays, offensive coordinator/offensive line; Scott Brock, defensive coordinator/linebackers; Todd Bates, defensive line/strength coach; Charles Jones, safeties; Eric Gray, corners/assistant strength coach; and Cody Wilson, tight ends/running backs.

"I am very excited about what each coach brings to the table," said Coach Karcher. "Our players will be well prepared to compete to the best of their ability at every game."

Top returnees on the offensive side include Martin Johnson, a 6-1, 200-pound running back and former first-team All-State selection at Nanih Waiya High School; Wesley Smith, a 6-2, 215-pound tight end/long snapper at Morton High School, where he

(Continued from previous page)

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received All-State and All-District honors; James Clark, a 6', 192-pound wide receiver from Laurel High School, who garnered All-District accolades; and Kyron Samuels, a 6-2, 315-pound center from Fairhope (Ala.) High School, where he was an All-American, a three-time All-State selection and served as captain in the MS/AL All-Star Football Game.

Johnson saw limited action during the first half of the 2013 campaign but finished the season with impressive numbers.

His 67-yard touchdown run helped lead EC to a 26-21 homecoming victory over Hinds. Johnson's best performance came in the home finale with Pearl River, when he rambled for 143 yards on 12 carries and one score. He had 21 rushes for 81 yards in the season finale at MS Gulf Coast.

Also considered a top offensive threat is sophomore transfer Hakeem Parker, a 6-4, 205-pound wide receiver from Joseph S. Clark High School in New Orleans, where he earned All-State and All-Metro honors.

On the defensive side, Karcher considers cornerback Chris Apperwhite as the top returnee.

➤ See ECCC on 18

WEEK OF 8-18-13

JUCO football TV program to

The Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) and Stockyard Productions have partnered with Mississippi Public Broadcasting to televise a 30-minute weekly football program titled "Inside Mississippi JUCO Football," spotlighting Mississippi Community and Junior College Football.

"Inside Mississippi JUCO Football" will televise 30-minute programs Wednesdays at 10 p.m. beginning Sept. 4 and concluding Dec. 4, (A complete list of each week's schedule is listed at the end of this story.)

"To team with Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB) provides a tremendous opportunity, as it allows access to a statewide audience," said Mike Frazer, JUCO Weekly president. "MPB has built an impeccable reputation with the public and the corporate community over its many years of service and we are very excited about this partnership."

portant messages we want to continue to make aware to the public. People can attend any one of the 15 community and junior colleges in the state to improve their job skill set and make themselves more valuable to the Mississippi market," Frazer said.

MACJC Director of Athletics and Activities Jim Southward is pleased to see the MACJC make the move to television. "We hope that people across the State of Mississippi will tune in and see how outstanding and competitive Mississippi community and junior college football is and what tremendous programs our colleges offer in the academic fields, technical and career programs, and in workforce training," he said.

"Inside Mississippi JUCO Football" in-studio host will be Travis Recek of both FOX40 Sports and WLBT Sports in Jackson. Recek has reported on multiple MACJC athletic stories and MACJC student athletes during his work in the Mississippi market.

In addition to viewing the program on the MPB station, "Inside Mississippi JUCO Football" will be linked to the www.jucoweekly.org website for viewing.

The www.jucoweekly.org website is entering its fourth season at providing in-depth coverage of Mississippi community and junior college athletics. To view live football scores, game stats, headline news, videos, game action photos, team schedules, team rosters and more, visit www.jucoweekly.org.

"Inside Mississippi JUCO Football" 2013 Television Schedule (10 p.m. Wednesdays):

- Episode 1: #8 East MS CC @ Pearl River CC: Sept. 4
- Episode 2: East Central CC @ #8 East MS CC: Sept. 11
- Epi CC @ Sept. 18
- E County Coast C
- Ep MS CC CC: Oct
- Epi CC @ Oct. 9

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Frazer added, "The MACJC has a rich reputation and tradition both throughout the Magnolia State and across the country. 'Inside Mississippi JUCO Football' will showcase the MACJC's talented athletes, renowned coaches (past and present) and each of the distinguished institutions that have proven to be recognition-worthy over the many years."

Frazer said the impact the MACJC has on senior colleges and universities and professional sports is "well documented" and has left an "indelible mark."

"'Inside Mississippi JUCO Football' is designed to spotlight the MACJC's athletic superiority, the league's academic prowess, and highlight the MACJC's profound economic impact to Mississippi," he said.

The show will be taped primarily on the community and junior college campuses across the state. The show will feature "Game of the Week" highlights in which each college will be featured at least once, complete with player and coaches interviews, a league-wide scoreboard, standings, player and team statistics and rankings, league headlines, game action photos from around the MACJC, and recruiting reports on current MACJC student athletes. Another feature on the show will be the "Community College Spotlight," which will focus on the many educational and professional job training courses that each of the community and junior colleges provide for students.

"Mississippi community and junior colleges are affordable, they are close to home wherever a person lives, and they teach job skills. That's one of the im-

WEEK OF 8-18-13

Winston 'Warriors'

These former football standouts from Winston County schools are members of the 2013 East Central Community College football squad. From left are running back Martin Johnson (7) of Nanih Waiya and linebacker Christian Wraggs (8) of Louisville. The Warriors are led by first-year head coach Ken Karcher. East Central is located in Decatur. (EC Photo).

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These former football standouts from Neshoba County schools are members of the 2013 East Central Community College football squad. Kneeling, from left, are defensive backs Anthony Triplett (6) of Philadelphia and Darrion Burnside (42) of Neshoba Central. Standing are linebacker Thomas McCool (44), offensive lineman Charles Robinson (77) and defensive lineman K.D. Monroe (92), all of Neshoba Central. The Warriors are led by first-year head coach Ken Karcher. (EC Photo)

Meet the Warriors set for Aug. 28

The public is invited to "Meet the Warriors" when East Central Community College hosts the annual pep rally and player introductions event scheduled Wednesday, August 28 on the Decatur campus.

Activities get under way at 6:30 p.m. on the East Mall near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart will provide opening remarks followed by performances from the Wall O' Sound Marching Band and cheerleading squad.

The athletic teams will then be introduced. Activities conclude with performances by the Warrior Cheerleaders, Centralettes and Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

Soccer season gets under way Thursday, August 22, when the Lady Warriors and Warriors travel to Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Game times are 4 and 6 p.m. on the Wesson campus. The first home matches are scheduled at 3 and 5 p.m. Friday, August 30 with Meridian Community College.

The 2013 football campaign begins Thursday, August 29, when the Warriors journey to Itawamba Community College. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the [illegible] The home opener is scheduled Thursday, Sept. 12 with Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Kickoff for the MACJC South Division opener is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

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WEEK OF 8-

Tryouts set for EC tennis

Tryouts for East Central Community College's Lady Warrior and Warrior tennis teams will be held Monday, August 19, 2013, announced Coach Dianne O'Neill.

Activities are scheduled from 3 to 5 p.m. on the ECCC tennis courts in Decatur.

For more information, contact Coach O'Neill, 601-862-2130.

Wilson joins ECCC football coaches staff

Cody Wilson was recently named an assistant football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Cody Wilson

Wilson serves as tight ends and running backs coach, announced first-year head coach Ken Karcher.

Prior to joining the Warrior staff, Wilson was an assistant coach at his alma mater, Louisiana College in Pineville, La., where he held various positions since 2011, including assistant offensive line coach/strength and conditioning assistant; tight ends coach; and most recently assistant defensive backs coach.

Wilson was a three-year starter on the offensive line for the Louisiana College Wildcats from 2007-2010.

He graduated with a double major from Louisiana College in 2012, earning degrees in mathematics education and applied mathematics with concentration in economics and finance.

Wilson, a native of Kentwood, La., graduated valedictorian from Jewel Sumner High School in 2007, where he was also a standout football player. The four-year letter-winner was an All-State selection and three-time recipient of All-District honors. He was also a Wendy's High School Heisman Top 10 state finalist.

Wilson is the son of Jesse and Tammy W. Strickland and Melanie Wilson, all of Kentwood, La. He is the grandson of Fay W. Simmons of Magnolia, MS and the late Lowell (Whip) Wilson of Kentwood.

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Paula Merritt / The Meridian Star

East Central's Austin Franklin prepares to kick a field goal during the 2012 season.

Warriors ready for a fresh start at Itawamba

By Sarah Moomaw
smoomaw@themeridianstar.com

This week, college football kicks off – JUCO included.

The East Central Warriors are headed to No. 16 Itawamba to open the season with a lot to prove, not necessarily to fans, but to themselves. First year head coach Ken Karcher said he is excited for tonight's kickoff and the first time he'll see the team compete against anyone but themselves for a full 60 minutes.

"They are a good football team," he said. "They have a good tradition. Obviously, it's an uphill battle for us, but we're excited. I'm more excited to just to go out and see, you know, where are we? Are we real far away? Can we compete in this league with the type of kids we have now? I just don't know. It'll be interesting to see."

Karcher has taken over the program in his first

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Warriors to have a new outlook in '13

It's a brand new season.

No, but really — like a brand new season for the East Central Warriors.

New coach.

New assistant coaches.

New team... with 44 new freshmen.

(And a new beat writer.)

Sarah Moomaw
Sport Writer
The Meridian Star

If any Warrior has a superstition about the number 13, it needs to be put aside for the 2013 season because they have enough pulling them down.

But the season won't be a complete loss, even if they go 0-10, because it's the start of a new era — possibly a winning era. First year head coach Ken Karcher is adamant about turning the program around for the long run.

He's brought in a hand picked staff to help him and, eventually, hopes to reshape East Central's recruiting in the process.

But first thing is first. He needs to mold what he has into something others want to be, which starts tonight.

New is the essence of the season — a chance to start over, fresh and everyone at 0-0 at kickoff.

With 44 guys coming off high school ball, they need to be looking to prove they belong in JUCO ball. The same needs to be said about the coaching staff.

Karcher and five of his six assistant coaches have no JUCO coaching experience. Don't run away screaming just yet.

They all have a mixture of Division 1 and pro league experience.

"Football is football," Karcher said in a preseason interview.

He isn't worried. The staff doesn't know the league first hand, but is confident no team can throw a play they haven't seen before and are looking forward to the matchup with Itawamba to break open the MACJC for them.

He's optimistic but realistic for the opener, but also the program going forward. It starts with who the athletes are.

Karcher wants guys that will work.

He won't tolerate kids just there to play football. He wants to have more of a role than just the on-the-field-whistle blower. He's looking to mold the lives of youth, while transforming a sorry football program.

Hired in February, he laid down the law that players will be held to the same standards as Division 1 athletes: class, practice, sleep, class, practice, sleep. Repeat — no excuses.

On the field and in the weight room, there will be no lollygagging or pity parties. If Karcher and his staff are going to put in 110 percent, so are the athletes.

It's a complete 180 for the program, evident in just six returning from last year's roster that went 3-6.

A nightmare waiting to happen? Not so much.

Any given year in JUCO ball, half the roster is new. So this year was a slightly larger recruiting class, which is the mindset they need to take for a good first impression.

Stepping out for the coin flip won't be anyone's first. They've played ball and need to keep on pushing just like the have done since the peewee leagues, after all, it's how they got here.

Youth on the field and in the coaching staff can't be a bad thing before the first snap.

It should be motivation and a chance to prove that being all the new is a good thing.

WEEK OF 9-25-13

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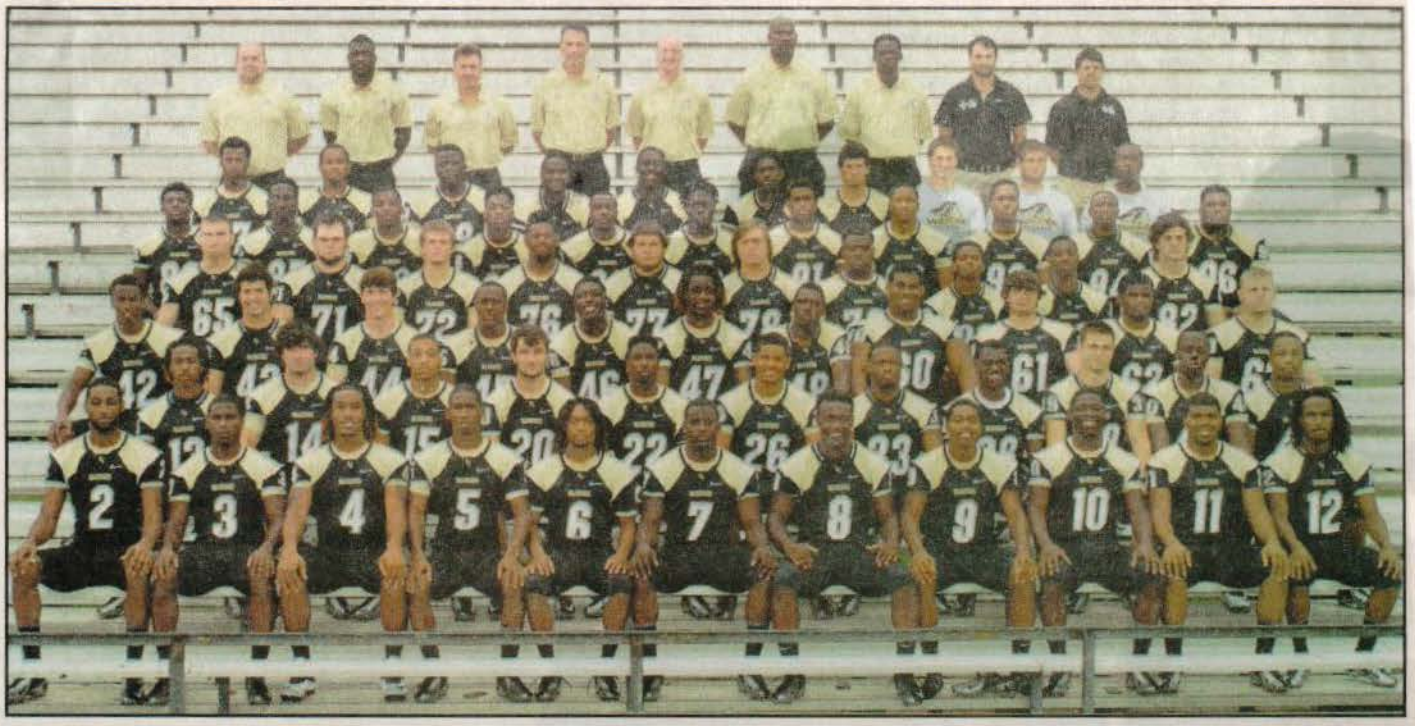

East Central Community College Warriors

Members of the 2013 East Central Community College football squad and their respective high schools include, from left, first row, wide receiver Hakeem Parker (2); defensive back JaDerrick Farrow (3); quarterback Jacori Taylor (4); defensive back Chris Apperwhite (5); Robinson (77), Johnathan Chambers (78) and Demetre McCleon (79); wide receiver Zachary Bobbitt (80); defensive back Chris Thornton (81); and tight end/wide receiver Layton Holcomb (82); fifth row, tight end/wide receiver Wesley Smith (83); tight ends Lucas Morgan (85) and Brandon

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Karcher 'Era' in ECCC Football

A new era in East Central Community College football gets under way Thursday, Aug. 29, when the Warriors battle Itawamba Community College in a non-division matchup set for 7 p.m. on the Fulton campus.

Ken Karcher, a veteran coach and former National Football League quarterback, will get his first "taste" of JUCO football when the first-year head mentor leads his squad against the Indians, who are ranked 16th in the NJCAA preseason poll.

Karcher, who previously served as offensive coordinator at Eastern Michigan University and is a former head coach at Liberty University, said he looks forward to the challenge even though his Warrior squad is mostly composed of freshmen.

"We are very excited to start our first season this week against Itawamba," said Karcher. "We are a very young team in most positions but have shown continuous improvement during camp. I am excited about the opportunity to coach in a league that has a great tradition and experienced coaches."

The Warriors will try to rebound from last year's 35-15 season-opening loss to the Indians, who are led by Jon Williams, a former Warrior assistant coach.

Itawamba finished 6-3 last season and returns seven starters.

The Warriors return six starters from last season's 3-6 squad, led by former head coach Brian Anderson.

Expected to battle for the quarterback spot are freshmen Jacori Taylor (6-2, 210), a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., and Donnie Farmer (6', 207), who hails from Harrison Central High School. Taylor's brother Emmanuel is a former Warrior standout quarterback who received MACJC All-State honors in 2009 and 2010.

Other top offensive team members include running backs Martin Johnson (6-1, 200), a sophomore from Nanih Waiya and Lamarcus Franks (5-7, 150), a freshman from Greene County; tight ends Kyle Adkins (6-4, 230), a sophomore from Union and Tyler Pace (6-2, 260), a freshman from Newton; H-backs Layton Holcomb (6-2, 220) of Oak Grove and Wesley Smith (6-2, 215) of Morton, both sophomores; wide receivers James Clark (6', 192), a sophomore from Laurel and Jimmy Cockrell (5-10, 170), a freshman from Columbus; freshman offensive tackles Charles Robinson (6-2, 280) of Neshoba Central, Branden Thomas (6-3, 285) of Gulfport, Edward DeLee (6-5, 290) of Centreville (La.) Academy and Ronald Dixon (6-1, 210) of Northwest Rankin; freshman offensive guards Quincy Cole (6', 266) of Ackerman, Johnathan Chambers (5-10, 275) of West Oktibbeha, Andy Morris (6-1, 260) of Amite School Center and Kendrick Maxwell (6', 220) of Houston. Chambers will also compete at center with freshman Kyron Samuels (6-2, 315), of Fairhope (Ala.) High School.

Sophomore Austin Franklin (6', 180) of Petal returns as kicker/punter. Tyler Pace is also listed as a kicker and Andy Morris is expected to compete at punter.

On the defensive side, top players include sophomore tackle Jeremy Pyles (6-5, 220) of Oxford (Ala.) High School and freshman tackles Romario Cobb (6', 260) of Ocean Springs, Xavier Woodard (6', 350) of

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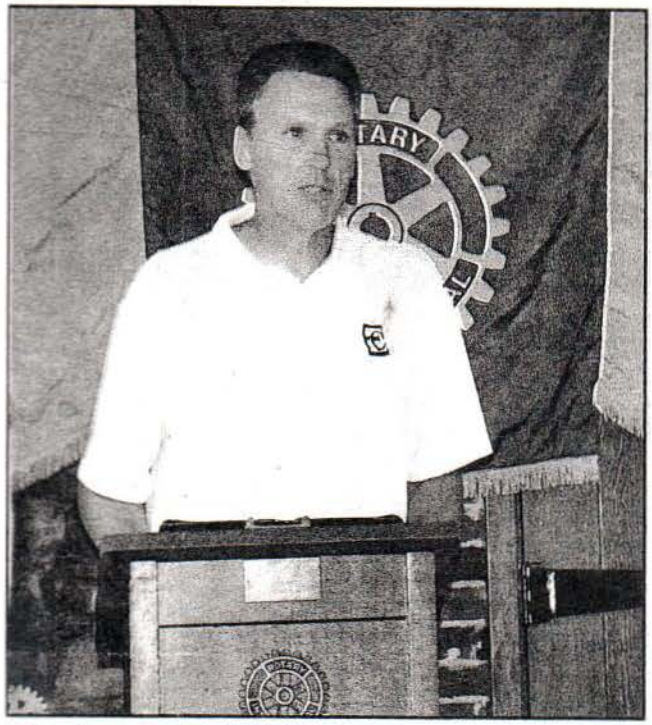
Winston County Journal www.winstoncountyjournal.com

begins Thursday at Itawamba



Karcher recently talked about the new era at ECCC with the Louisville Rotary Club which meets each Wednesday at noon.

East Central Community College, Athletic Director Chris Harris also spoke to the club about Karcher and the upcoming season.

Jackson Jim Hill and Xavier Telfort (6-1, 280) Northwest Rankin; freshman defensive ends K. D. Monroe (6-1, 230) of Neshoba Central, Anthony McGee (6-2, 240) of Quitman, Isaiah Williams (6-3, 202) of Jackson Jim Hill and Darryl Rogers (6-3, 215) of Laurel; freshman linebackers Fredrick Rich (6-4, 190) of Tanner (Ala.) High School, Matthew Moore (6-1, 222) of Laurel, Christian Wraggs (5-11, 210) of Louisville, Thomas McCool (5-11, 220) of Neshoba Central and Grant Landrum (5-11, 190) of Sumrall, and sophomore linebacker Zac Thigpen (5-9, 200) of Laurel; freshman defensive backs Anthony Triplett (5-8, 150) of Philadelphia, Caleb Autrey (5-9, 168) of Foley (Ala.) High School, Shepard Jones (5-8, 168) of Jackson Lanier, JaDerrick Farrow (5-11, 195) of Bleckley County (Ga.) High School, Blake Gordon (5-11, 196) of Northwest Rankin, Darrion Burnside (6-4, 185) of Neshoba Central and Phakzian Walker (6-2, 194) of Quitman, and sophomore defensive back Chris Apperwhite (6', 170) of Laurel.

Members of Coach Karcher's staff and their respective areas of responsibility include Mickey Mays, offensive coordinator/offensive line; Scott Brock, defensive coordinator/linebackers; Todd Bates, defensive line/strength coach; Charles Jones, safeties; Eric Gray, corners/assistant strength coach; and Cody Wilson, tight ends/ running backs.

All Warrior football games can be heard on KICK 98 (98.3FM) featuring veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten and game analyst Gilbert Barham.

For more information, visit the College Web site, www.eccc.edu.

WEEK OF Sept. 1, 2012

East Central Community College defender Jeremy Pyles (25) brings down running back Chris Ingram (30) during the season opener for both teams Thursday.

East Central falls 40-7 in opener against Itawamba

Quarterback Jacori Taylor's 60-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Hakeem Parker was the offensive highlight for the East Central Community Warriors who fell 40-7 to nationally ranked Itawamba Community College in the season opener for both teams Thursday.

The non-division matchup also began the Ken Karcher era as ECCC's head football coach.

Next up for the Warriors are the long-time rival East Mississippi Community College Lions, who defeated Pearl River Community College 49-6 Thursday night on the Poplarville campus. EMCC is ranked sixth in the pre-season NJCAA poll.

The Warriors/Lions battle is set for 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5 on the Scooba campus.

Taylor's screen pass to Parker came with 10 minutes left in third-quarter action and narrowed the Itawamba advantage at 27-7.

Austin Franklin of Petal added the PAT. Taylor is a freshman from Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., and Parker is a sophomore from Joseph S. Clark High School in New Orleans. Franklin is also a sophomore and a former standout at Petal High School.

The No. 16 Indians were led by quarterback Griff Loftis who passed for 331 yards and four scores for the easy victory. Jon Williams, a former Warrior assistant, is in his fourth season as head coach.

Itawamba took a 3-0 lead with 5:19 left in first-period action on a 20-yard field goal from Emmitt Dendy of Houston.

The Indians stretched their lead to 10-0 followed by Loftis' 25-yard TD strike to wide receiver Shante Rogers of Itawamba Agricultural High School with 18 seconds left in the period. Dendy added the first of his four PATs on the night.

Loftis continued his scoring success in the second quarter, as he connected with wide receiver Chance McNulty of Germantown on a 16-yard TD strike with 14:03 left followed by an eight-yard scoring pass play to tight end Archie Dennard of Hollandale Simmons with 45 seconds remaining. before halftime.

Dendy also contributed to second-quarter scoring as he connected on a 24-yard field goal with 8:13 left.

Loftis's fourth TD pass came in the third stanza – a 30-yard strike to wide receiver Jaquez McMillian of Southaven with 2:28 remaining, which gave ICC a 33-7 lead.

Indian running back Chris Ingram of Southaven scored the game's final points on his 10-yard dash with 11:30 remaining.

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WEEK OF Sept. 1, 2013

East Mississippi 59, East Central 0: Lakendric Thomas had 15 carries for 96 yards with four rushing touchdowns as the fifth-ranked Lions (2-0) shut out the Warriors (0-2).

Lions roar past East Central, 59-0

By Sarah Moomaw
smoomaw@themeridianstar.com

SCOOBA — They heard them roar.

The No. 5 East Mississippi Community College Lions mounted a 59-0 shutout over the East Central Community College Warriors on Thursday night in Scooba.

59

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After the second blowout in two years, both coaches agreed the once heated, hard fought rivalry has faded for the time being.

"The rivalry is a regional rivalry and we don't play them ever year," EMCC head coach Buddy Stephens said. "We want to win every game, but you always want to against your neighbor. It's just kind of the way it is … but because we in different leagues, the rivalry isn't there."

"The rivalry isn't here," first year ECCC head coach Ken Karcher said.

Paula Merritt / The Meridian Star

East Mississippi Community College's Preston Baker cuts between East Central Community College defenders Thursday night.

Right out of the gates, East Mississippi proved to themselves, fans and the visitors why they are nationally ranked, controlling the ball almost entirely throughout the 60 minutes.

"We got some guys tired, which was good," Stephens said. "They need to see that, 'Hey, we need to work on our conditioning during the week, we got to set a better tempo during the week, so that we don't get tired."

As if not getting a chance on offensive wasn't bad enough for East Central, East Mississippi kept them on their toes with multiple scorers and capitalized on Warrior mistakes.

"They are a good football team," Karcher said. "We knew coming in if we made mistakes, it'd be ugly and they were much more physical than us … we have a long way to go. We knew that."

Just a year after a 51-7 Lions win, it only took them 46 minutes to surpass the 2012 output on their way to their sixth shutout, largest win margin, and tying the third largest win total of the Buddy Stephens era.

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East Central Warriors lose 59-0 to East Mississippi Lions

East Central Community College's young and injury-plagued football squad was simply no match for nationally ranked East Mississippi Community College which scored early and often in posting an easy 59-0 victory over the Warriors Thursday, Sept. 5 at Sullivan-Windham Field on the Scooba campus.

The No. 4 Lions (2-0) scored on their first play from scrimmage on quarterback Dontreal Pruitt's 30-yard TD strike to Kameron Myers, and extended their first-quarter lead to 21-0 following Lakendric Thomas' one-yard run and an 18-yard return of a Warrior fumble by Lion linebacker Christian Russell.

Thomas tallied on another one-yard plunge early in the second period, which also featured Pruitt's 19-yard TD toss to Kameron Myers and a 36-yard field goal by Drew White as time expired for halftime.

White also connected on all seven PATs.

The Lions wasted little time in padding their 38-0 halftime advantage as Thomas scored his third TD on a two-yard run with 11:09 left in the third stanza.

East Mississippi tallied twice in the fourth quarter – first on Preston Baker's four-yard scamper early in the period followed by Thomas's fourth TD, a one-yard run with 9:40 remaining. Thomas finished with 96 yards.

The Warriors, who fell to 0-2 under first-year head coach Ken Karcher, were led by sophomore running back Martin Johnson who had 55 yards on 19 carries.

Johnson is a product of Nanih Waiya High School.

Freshman quarterback Jacori Taylor completed three of seven passes for 39 yards.

Taylor is a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga.

Freshman tight end Brandon Davis of Newton County High School had one grab for 20 yards and sophomore wide receiver James Clark of Laurel caught two passes for eight yards.

Freshman Donnie Farmer of Harrison Central also saw action at quarterback.

He attempted four passes and had one interception.

The Warriors host Copi Lincoln Community Colle Thursday, Sept. 12, in t MACJC South Division open for both teams.

Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. Bailey Stadium on the Decat campus.

The defending MACJC St Champion Wolves are 2-0 fo lowing victories over Northea (29-20) and Northwest (48-24

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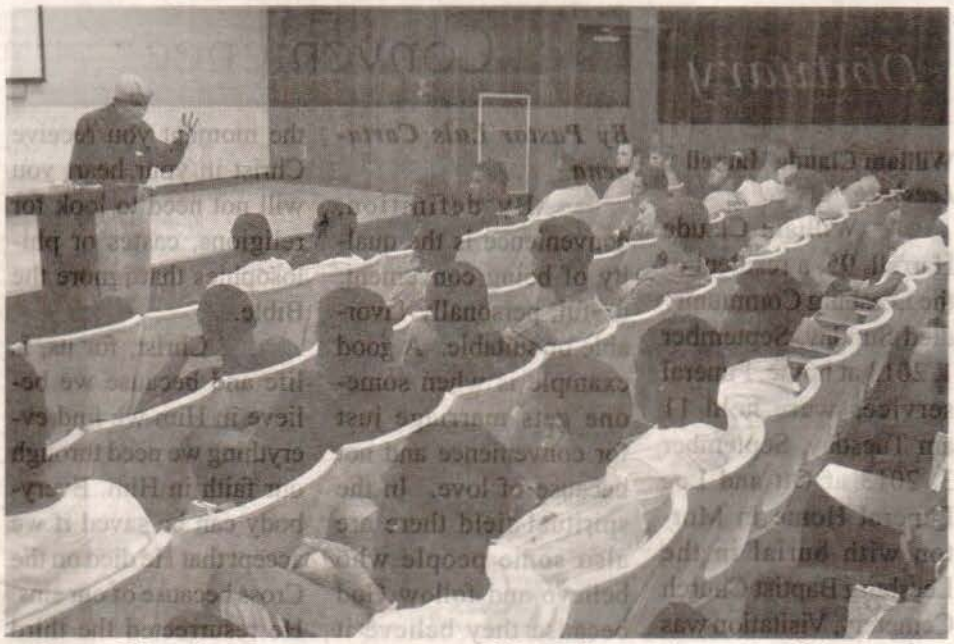

Dr. Clark Encourages Warrior Football Team

Dr. Howard Clark of Morton provided an inspirational message and devotional to East Central Community College football players prior to the 2013 campaign. Dr. Clark challenged the Warriors "to be the best they can be" and added, "It's not the dog in the fight….it's the fight in the dog" that will lead a team to victory. Dr. Clark is a longtime supporter of Morton athletics and has received numerous honors for his support of student-athletes and the many decades of healthcare provided patients in Scott County and the surrounding area. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Sept. 15, 2013

ECCC Warriors fall to Co-Lin

DECATUR – Former Philadelphia Tornado Anthony Triplett started his first game as quarterback as the East Central Community College Warriors dropped a 23-0 decision to defending state champion Co-Lin Thursday night in junior college football action.

Triplett completed nine of 16 passes for 78 yards for the Warriors.

After exchanging early turnovers, Triplett – who is listed on the roster as a defensive back – engineered a 13-play, 68-yard drive only to have the scoring threat nullified due to a Warrior fumble near the goal line.

EC's offense was unable to recover from the early miscue and the sixth-ranked Wolves struggled early offensively as well but managed to seal the victory with two second-half scores in the MACJC South Division opener for both squads.

First-year Warrior head coach Ken Karcher said the early turnover was a momentum changer for his young squad.

"I thought if we knocked the first one in there, down on the one-yard line where we fumbled, it's a different ball game," Karcher said following the squad's home opener at Bailey Stadium. "You can't make those mistakes against a good football team. Our kids will continue to get better and not make those mistakes, but that's a key point in the ball game right there."

Triplett, a 5-8, 150-pound freshman, had two interceptions. One of his interceptions nixed a scoring threat early in the third period with the visitors up 16-0.

Karcher praised the performance of the young signal caller, who was called to action due to injuries sustained by sophomore Donnie Farmer of Harrison Central in Gulfport and freshman Jacori Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga.

"I thought Anthony brought some life to our football team," Karcher said of the Philadelphia High School product. "I thought all the players fought hard and showed much improvement from the previous two games."

EC began the 2013 campaign with a 40-7 loss to then 16th-ranked Itawamba followed by a 59-0 defeat to fifth-ranked East Mississippi.

The Warrior offense was also sparked by freshman speedster Lamarcus Franks, who was the top rusher with 89 yards on 17 carries. Franks is a 5-7, 150-pound product of Greene County High School.

Sophomore Martin Johnson had eight carries for 28 yards. Johnson is a 6-1, 200-pound product of Nanih Waiya High School.

EC travels to division opponent Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday, Sept. 19. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Southwest campus. The Bears (1-2) fell 69-0 to East Mississippi.

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WEEK OF Sept. 15, 2013

East Central still winless in '13

From staff reports

The East Central Community College Warriors fell on the road to Southwest Mississippi Community College, 24-7, on Thursday night, despite getting on the board first.

Donnie Farmer and Tyler Pace connected for a three-yard score with 9:47 left in the first quarter, 7-0.

Southwest Mississippi retaliated six minutes later when De'Angelo Ballard punched in a 1-yard score with 3:45 on the clock.

In the second quarter, Southwest Mississippi pushed its lead with a 43-yard field goal off the foot of Michael McDaniel.

Ballard ran in Southwest's second touchdown of the night from 26-yards out with 12:25 left in the third quarter for a 17-7 lead. Jamal Haul capped Bears scoring with a 30-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter.

The Warriors were led by Lamarcus Franks with 15 carries for 52 yards. Farmer finished the night 12-of-24 for 128 yards and 1 touchdown and 1 interception.

Next Thursday, East Central will travel to Hinds Community College.

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WEEK OF Sept. 22, 2013

Warriors' injury woes, road trip continue

By Sarah Moomaw
The Meridian Star

The East Central Community College football team's break from playing NJCAA ranked teams was short lived as they prepare to take on No. 20 Hinds Community College on tonight at 7 p.m.

Last week, the Warriors fell to unranked Southwest Mississippi Community College, 20-7. The matchup, on paper, seemed to be the best chance to grab the program's first win under head coach Ken Karcher thus far.

Karcher said turnovers and allowing a late field goal cost his team the game.

"I thought last week was the one game that we did not play with great effort the whole night," he said. "We had a chance going into the half, it was a close game … this week, we've had a good week preparation."

Injuries riddled the Warriors and will continue to do so this week. More injuries to the offensive will force the Warriors to put a new 11 on the field.

But as with the first four weeks, Karcher said the season isn't about wins and losses, but the beginning of rebuilding the program.

Here are five things to watch for this week:

1.) Battle of QBs: The Warriors learned, thanks to injury, that they have three quarterbacks if needed. Jacori Taylor and Donnie Farmer were both on the bench two weeks ago against Copiah-Lincoln Community College, handing the offense leading role over to freshman Anthony Triplett.

Last week, Triplett wasn't with the team due to academic reasons. The missed trip reenforced Karcher's coaching philosophy that his player's off-the-field mentality and actions will affect their ability to play.

At Hinds this week, Donnie Farmer will start for the second consecutive game.

"We're just trying to find a guy that can be consistent," Karcher said about naming a starter.

2.)Hungry, hungry footballers: Hinds and East

See **ECCC** on page B2

Paula Merritt / The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Lamarcus Franks eyes a Copiah-Lincoln Community College defender

ECCC from page B1

Central both saw losses last week, but the Eagles started the season 2-0. The Warriors have slipped to 0-4. Deciding who's hungrier is impossible Karcher said.

"The guys, so far, have come out and had a good week of practice," he said. "This is going to be a really long year. Each week, just going to take it one game at a time … if you're a good football player, you're hungry every week."

3.) Life on the road: The Warriors have played in front of their fans in Decatur just once so far this season.

This week is no different as they make their journey west on Interstate 20 to Jackson. Karcher said the schedule is what it is, but with road games and ranked teams, hasn't been forgiving.

4.) Punting prowess: Karcher said his guys are going to have to watch their simple mistakes and make clean catches. The later will be especially important on punts. Hind's punter Pate DeMuth currently ranks eighth in the NCJAA at 40.1 average yards per punt.

"Hopefully, he'll maybe shank a couple. That'd help us," Karcher said.

5.) New face on the sidelines: The Karcher Era hopes to bring many improvements, a major key being the coaching staff. Gary Risher is returning to his alma mater to lend a helping hand after 40 years at the high school level. Risher is a member of ECCC's 1962 class. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in secondary education at Mississippi College.

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WEEK OF Apr. 22, 2013

EC plans $4.8M football facility

From school reports

DECATUR — Fundraising efforts are underway to construct a new Football Operations Center at East Central Community College in Decatur, ECCC President Billy Stewart announced recently.

Stewart said the $4.8 million complex will be located on north end of Bailey Stadium and includes a state-of-the art weight room and athletic training facility for all student-athletes. Also included in the plans is a $1 million turf field to replace the existing grass field.

Stewart

"The completion of this facility and field has the potential to positively affect the future of Warrior athletics for many years," said Stewart. "First and foremost, its construction will impact each of the five commitments our institution has made as a component of 20/20 Vision. But it also has the potential to seamlessly connect our athletic facilities to the college and our community. I am confident that the construction of this facility will set us apart from our peers and enhance our reputation as a training ground for excellence."

Athletic Director Chris Harris said: "I'm excited about the commitment Dr. Stewart and the Board of Trustees have made on behalf of our athletic programs. As with any project involving improvements to athletic facilities, private donors have a tremendous impact on the success of the project and the timing in which the project will be completed."

First-year head football coach Ken Karcher has played a key role in the design of the Football Operations Center.

"This facility will be a place to further develop our student-athletes in all four phases of their life – intellectually, physically, spiritually and socially – which is our mission at ECCC," said Karcher.

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WEEK OF Sept. 22, 2010

Warriors lead early but fall to Southwest

From school reports

On the game's first possession, East Central Community College quarterback Donnie Farmer engineered an eight-play, 77-yard drive capped by a three-yard TD toss to tight end Tyler Pace.

Austin Franklin's PAT put the Warriors up 7-0 and the Warriors had a successful start to their MACJC South Division battle with Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday night at John L. Hurst Stadium on the Summit campus.

However, the home-standing Bears rallied to take a 10-7 lead at halftime and added touchdowns in the third and fourth stanzas to claim a 24-7 victory.

The Bears improved to 2-2 overall and 1-0 in league play, while the Warriors fell to 0-4 and 0-2.

Farmer, a 6-1, 207-pound freshman from Harrison Central, finished the night by completing 12 of 24 passes for 128 yards and had one interception. Pace, a 6-2, 260-pound freshman from Newton, had another reception for minor yardage.

Southwest tied the contest later in the first period on quarterback De'Angelo Ballard's one-yard plunge and Michael McDaniel's PAT. Angelo is a 6', 180-pound freshman from Noxubee County and McDaniel hails from Northwest Rankin.

McDaniel, a 5-7, 153-pound freshman, gave Southwest the lead for good on his 43-yard field goal with 10 seconds left before halftime.

The Bears took advantage of a Warrior miscue early in third-period action, as Ballard again found the end zone, this time on an 18-yard scramble. McDaniel added the PAT.

The short scoring drive began at the EC 34 and was set up by a Warrior fumble on a punt return.

EC was unable to take advantage of a scoring opportunity later in the third period when Franklin's 45-yard field goal attempt fell short. Franklin is a 6', 180-pound sophomore from Petal.

The Bears' added their final tally with 4:12 left in the division contest on Jamal Hall's 30-yard run. Hall is a 5-8, 200-pound sophomore running back from Picayune. McDaniel added the PAT.

East Central travels to division foe Hinds Community College Thursday. Sept. 26. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Raymond campus.

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WEEK OF Sept. 22, 2013

Risher joins Warrior football staff

Gary Risher of Forest is a recent addition to the football coaches' staff at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced head coach Ken Karcher.

Risher is serving as an offensive assistant.

His coaching career spans approximately 40 years on the high school level and includes a Little Dixie Conference title in 1970 during his inaugural season as head coach of the Forest High School Bearcats.

Risher received Coach of the Year honors following the championship season.

Risher also served on coaching staffs for the Mississippi Public High School All-Star Football Games and Mississippi Private High School All-Star Football Games.

Risher attended East Central Community College from 1960-62.

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WEEK OF Sept. 22, 2013

Early lead ends in ECCC loss

On the game's first possession, East Central Community College quarterback Donnie Farmer engineered an eight-play, 77-yard drive capped by a three-yard TD toss to tight end Tyler Pace.

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EC was unable to take advantage of a scoring opportunity later in the third period when Franklin's 45-yard field goal attempt fell short. Franklin is a 6', 180-pound sophomore from Petal.

The Bears' added their final tally with 4:12 left in the division contest on Jamal Hall's 30-yard run. Hall is a 5-8, 200-pound sophomore running back from Picayune. McDaniel added the PAT.

East Central's rushing attack was led by running back Lamarcus Franks, who had 15 carries for 52 yards. Franks is a 5-7, 150-pound freshman from Greene County High School.

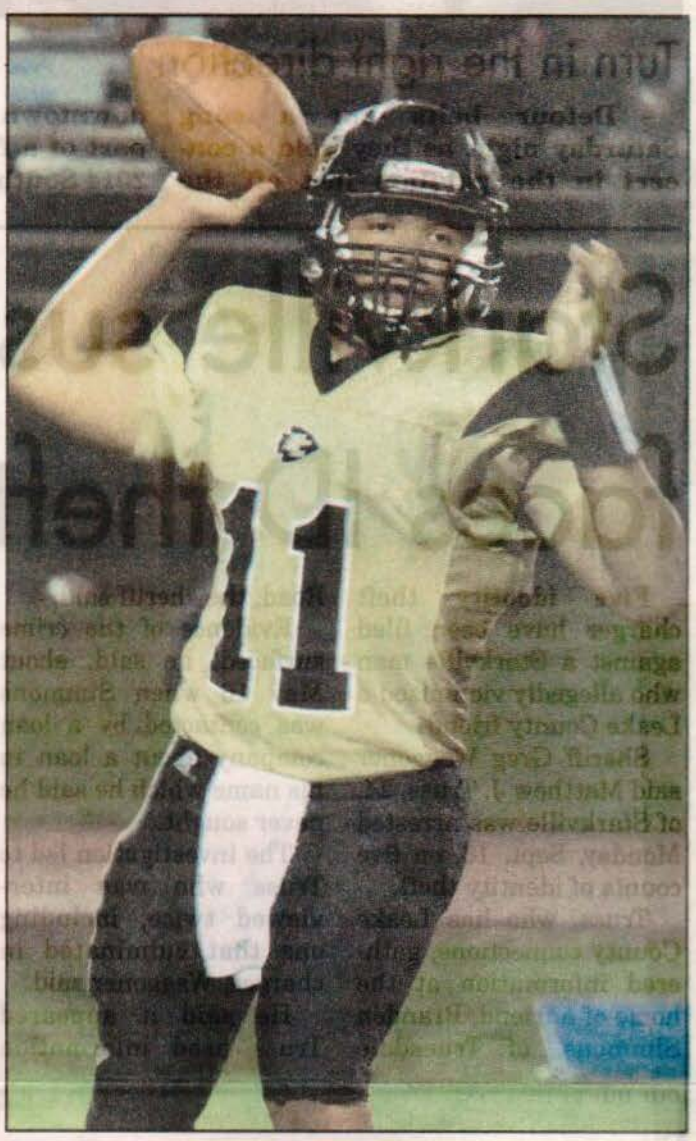
Running back Martin Johnson contributed 48 yards on seven carries. Johnson is a 6-1, 200-pound sophomore from Nanih Waiya.

Farmer finished with 25 yards on six carries.

The top receiver was Hakeem Parker, who had six grabs for 48 yards. Parker is a 6-4, 205 sophomore from Joseph S. Clark High School in New Orleans.

East Central travels to division foe Hinds Community College Thursday. Sept. 26. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Raymond campus.

The No. 11 Eagles (2-2, 2-2) fell 19-10 to No. 6 Copiah-Lincoln (4-0, 2-0) Thursday night.



Farmer leads ECCC

Quarterback Donnie Farmer (11) looks for an open receiver during East Central Community College's division matchup with Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday. He connected with tight end Tyler Pace on a three-yard TD pass and an early 7-0 lead. (EC Photo)

WEEK OF Sept. 22

Hinds rips past Warriors 48-14

From staff reports

East Central Community College's tough start to the 2013 football season continued Thursday night as the Warriors fell, 48-14, on the road to Hinds Community College.

The Eagles struck first as Gregory Foster ran in a four-yard touchdown in the first quarter to put Hinds up 7-0.

Eagles quarterback Diante Thomas would then find Desmond Anderson on a 12-yard touchdown pass later in the quarter to double the lead for Hinds.

The Eagles would get touchdown runs from Tommy McCalpin (three yards) and Robert Lockhart (27 yards) as they rolled into halftime with a 27-0 lead.

The onslaught continued in the second half as Gregory Foster added his second touchdown of the night on a one-yard run to make the score 34-0.

East Central would get on the board with six seconds left in the third quarter when running back Martin Johnson broke free for a 27-yard touchdown run. After a successful PAT from Austin Franklin, the Warriors trailed Hinds 34-7 heading into the fourth quarter.

Foster would complete the hat-trick in the fourth quarter though, as he ran in his final score of the game from 11 yards out.

The Warriors would answer back when quarterback Jacori Taylor found Jimmy Cockrell for a touchdown to cut the score to 41-14 after a successful PAT from Franklin. But it wouldn't be enough as McCalpin rounded out the scoring with a 41-yard touchdown run for Hinds.

Lemarcus Franks led the Warriors on the ground with 18 carries for 105 yards, while Johnson carried the ball 12 times for 48 yards. Hakeem Parker caught five passes for 32 yards to lead in receiving.

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WEEK OF Sept. 29, 2013

ECCC from page B1

"All we're talking about now is how to fight.," Karcher said. "Our kids, we got to keep teaching them right now, we out manned in pretty much everybody we play, we knew that coming into the season, but we try continue to get them to fight for 60 minutes and keep their heads up."

Just before half time, and down 31-0, Austin Franklin lined up for a 23-yard field goal attempt to close a 73-yard drive, but Jones blocked the kick with 53 seconds left in the half. Four plays earlier, on a second-and-eight at the Warriors' own 29-yard line, Farmer had connected with Hakeem Parker for a short pass, which Parker drove down the left side line for a 61-yard play – the longest of the night for the Warriors.

Just shy of a half hour later on the game clock, ECCC was back in the red zone, inching their way towards the goal line.

Farmer and Parker had connected two plays earlier for a one-yard gain, but two incomplete passes into the end zone turned the ball over on downs at the 16-yard line to end the 8-minute 11-second, 74-yard drive.

"Donnie did some good things," Karcher said. "He's got to continue to be more consistent, he missed some chances early that you have to hit to even be in a game with this type of team and we didn't do that. He's continued to work hard and do the things we've asked.

Paula Merritt / The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Hakeem Parker tries to get around the end on a pass reception Thursday night against Jones County Junior College.

Jones scored in every quarter but scored 24-points in the second partially thanks to two two-play drives.

On their first drive of the quarter, ECCC fumbled the ball on their own 34-yard line. Jones recovered the ball to find itself in scoring distance. Quarterback Steven Swindle connected with Jamicheal Willis for a 31-yard pass to the 3-yard line. The Bobcats earned half the distance to the goal, a yard and half, on a Warrior illegal substation penalty allowing Keshod Willis to punch in the score to make it 17-0.

The Bobcats started their following drive on a touchback and Swindle unleaded his throwing potential for a two-pass score.

Swindle's first pass from 36 yards put them over midfield and the second ended in the hands of Kenneth Colemen for 44 yards and a 24-0 lead with 7:18 left in the first half.

"Against a good offense, you can't give them long passes and third down situations, and offensive you can't go three-and-out and put the defense back on the field, so right now we just aren't a real good football team," Karcher said.

The theme of two continued throughout the night as Bobcat kicker Grant McLaurin missed his third field goal attempt, leaving him with two successful long kicks – one in the second quarter for 47-yards and another in there third for 45-yards.

The Bobcats leading rusher was Keshod Willis for 106 yards for 14 carries. Swindle completed eight-of-10 passes for 192 yards and two touchdowns. Quartex Cooks caught both touchdowns to finished the night with 14 catches and 158 yards.

Next week, ECCC will host Mississippi Delta on Saturday, Oct. 12, at 2:30 p.m.

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Jamicheal Willis leads the nation in receiving yards per game, averaging 147.0. In actual yardage, his 735 ranks second to Mesa Community College (N.M.)'s Cody Sual's 757. Teammate Quartez Cook is fifth in receiving yards per game, at 91.4.

Only problem is at that position, the Warriors aren't very deep.

"We're a little bit banged up there (at DB), so it's going to be a challenge to really good a job," Karcher said. "We're really going to have to play well ... Jones has very good skill position, they like to throw the ball deep."

3)Staying true to word: Karcher came into the ECCC program and made one thing clear: it wasn't going to stand for his players just getting by and there would be discipline.

This week, Karcher benched players for academic reasons and tardiness to team events, despite being 0-5 with another ranked team coming in.

"That's one of the issues of a young program, you're trying to set the foundation and I'm not going to bend on those things," he said. "If guys aren't going to be on time or take care of their academics, then they are not going to play football."

ECCC Photo

East Central Community College's Lamarcus Franks runs away from a Hinds defender last week in Raymond.

4) Battle of the QBs: A week after all three quarterbacks took time under center, Donnie Farmer will get the start this week. Jacori Taylor will service as his only backup as Anthony Tripplet will be on the bench for violating team rules.

5)On the rise: Karcher said LaMarcus Franks has been his most consistent player this season, but lately the first-year coach has been keeping an eye on safety/linebacker JaDerrick Farrow.

Farrow is second on the Warriors in total tackles made with 31 "He has potential to play past us I think," Karcher said. "He's intelligent. He's where he needs to be. He's a good tackler. He's got good ball skills and that's what you want in a safety."

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WEEK OF Sept. 29, 2013

Tough schedule continues as EC hosts No. 3 JCJC

By Sarah Moomaw
smoomaw@themeridianstar.com

In the tales of tough schedules, East Central Community College's rolls on as the Warriors prepare to host No. 3 Jones County Community College tonight in Decatur.

Last week, against then-No. 20 Hinds Community College, ECCC found the end zone twice in one game for the first time this season, but lost 48-14.

Head coach Ken Karcher and his team is still only looking forward and not focusing on outside factors, especially rankings— but, the Warriors know what they have coming in.

"I wish we were playing a team that wasn't so good," Karcher said. "Like I told our kids, it's another opportunity for an upset, and we have to play really well to have a chance ... we're just going to try an continue to improve ourselves."

Here are five things to watch for in tonight's game.

1) You're going down: ECCC's linebacker Fredrick Rich is ranked seventh in the NJCAA for solo tackles made at 45. Karcher said he expects nothing less with the way linebacker coach Todd Bates has built the line.

"[Rich]'s done a nice job being where he needs to be most of time, he's very athletic," Karcher said. "With the way the defense is set up, a linebacker should have a lot of tackles. ... he needs to continue to improve because we need him to play well for us to have a chance on defense."

2) Try and catch 'em: Jones County isn't just nationally ranked as a team, but individually as well. Top 5 skill players will mean Karcher's defensive backs will have to be on point.

See **ECCC** on page B2

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WEEK OF Sept. 29, 2013

Nationally-ranked Hinds

Hinds Community College lived up to its national ranking as the No. 20 Eagles cruised to a 48-14 victory over East Central Community College Thursday, Sept. 26 at Renfroe Stadium on the Raymond campus.

EC's Warriors fell to 0-5 overall and 0-3 in division play following the MACJC South Division matchup, while Hinds improved to 3-2 and 1-2.

The Eagles led 28-0 at halftime and held a 34-0 third-quarter advantage when East Central tallied its first points of the night on sophomore running back Martin's Johnson's 27-yard scamper with six seconds remaining in the stanza. Johnson's score capped a six-play, 45-yard drive and provided the first score of the season for the Nanih Waiya High School product. Sophomore kicker Austin Franklin of Petal added the PAT.

East Central's other score came with 4:54 left in the contest, when freshman quarterback Jacori Taylor and freshman wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell hooked up on a 19-yard scoring pass play, capping a seven play, 38-yard march set up by a Hinds fumble during a punt attempt. Taylor is a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., and Cockrell hails from Columbus High School. Franklin added the PAT.

Hinds took control early in the contest on Gregory Foster's four-yard TD run and Diante Thomas' 12-yard touchdown strike to Desmond Anderson during first-period action. Joseph Houston booted both PATs.

The Eagles extended their lead in the second period on Tommy McCalpin's three-yard run and Thomas' 27-yard TD toss to Robert Lockhart. Houston kicked the PAT following McCalpin's score but his attempt was blocked by the Warriors following the scoring pass play.

Hinds extended its lead to 34-0 on Foster's second tally, a one-yard run midway in the third stanza. Houston added the PAT.

Foster added a third tally on his 11-yard run early in the fourth quarter. Houston's PAT stretched the Eagle advantage to 41-7.

The game's final points came on McCalpin's second score, this time on a 41-yard burst to pay dirt with 1:57 left in the game.

EC's offense was led by freshman running back Lamarcus Franks who had 20 carries for 107 yards. Franks is a product of Greene County High School.

Johnson finished with 42 yards on 11 attempts, which included his 27-yard TD run.

Freshman running back Matthew Hicks of Ocean Springs had three carries for 30 yards.

Freshman Donnie Farmer started at quarterback for the Warriors. The Harrison Central High School product completed three of seven passes for 11 yards and one interception. Farmer had four rushes for six yards.

Anthony Triplett was

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the Warrior signal caller for most of the second half. The freshman from Philadelphia High School completed two of six passes for 19 yards. He had nine rushes for seven yards.

Taylor finished the game and completed two of six passes for 28 yards and one interception. He had one rush for five yards.

Hakeem Parker was the top receiver with five catches for 31 yards. The sophomore wide receiver is a product of Joseph S. Clark High School in New Orleans.

Cockrell had one catch for 19 yards and a score.

Franklin averaged 40 yards on five punts.

JaDerrick Farrow led the EC defense with five tackles and two assists. The freshman defensive back is a product of Bleckley County High School in Cochran, Ga.

Other top tacklers were freshman linebacker Fredrick Rich of Tanner High School in Athens, Ga., four tackles, one assist; sophomore linebacker Zachery Thigpen of Laurel, three tackles and one assist; freshman defensive back Phakezian Walker of Quitman, two tackles and three assists; and freshman defensive back Darrion Burnside of Neshoba Central, two tackles and two assists.

Next up for EC is a division matchup with Jones County Junior College scheduled Thursday. October 3.

Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

WEEK OF 09. 3. 2015

EC Warriors fall to nationally ranked JCJC

East Central Community College quarterback Donnie Farmer (11) avoids a tackle from Jones County defensive lineman Allen Young (44) of McComb to complete a pass Thursday. Jones won the game, 47-0

Struggles continue on the gridiron for the young East Central Community Warriors who were victims of another nationally-ranked team Thursday at Bailey Stadium.

After trailing just 7-0 following first-period action, East Central was simply no match for the No. 3 Jones County Junior College Bobcats who added 24 points in the second quarter on their way to an easy 47-0 victory.

Jones County improved to 6-0 overall and leads the MACJC South Division with a 4-0 mark. East Central dropped to 0-6 and 0-4.

"Jones is a much-better football team than us," said first-year Warrior head coach Ken Karcher in a post-game interview. "We had a couple of chances (to score) but when you don't capitalize against a good team you're not going to have those things happen."

One such opportunity collapsed following the Bobcats' first score when the Warriors drove from their own 19 to the Jones County 32, where the drive stalled on fourth and short yardage. A highlight of the 49-yard march was JaDerrick Farrow's 12-yard run on a fake punt when EC faced fourth and six near midfield.

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See **ECCC**, page 2B

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WEEK OF Oct. 6, 2013

ECCC

Continued from page 1B

possession on the Bobcat 10-yard-line. However, the drive stalled and Austin Franklin's 23-yard field goal attempt was partially blocked.

Farmer, a freshman signal caller from Harrison Central, finished the night completing 13 of 22 passes for 129 yards. Parker, a sophomore from Joseph S. Clark High School in New Orleans, led EC receivers with five grabs for 84 yards. Franklin, also a sophomore, hails from Petal High School.

The Warriors reached the Bobcat 17-yard-line on their final drive of the night but turned over possession when Farmer's pass attempt fell incomplete on fourth and nine.

The Bobcats were led by freshman quarterback Steven Swindle of Oak Grove, who completed eight of 10 passes for 192 yards and two scores.

His top receiver was sophomore wide receiver Quartez Cooks of Quitman, who had four catches for 158 yards and scored on 45- and 24-yard receptions from Swindle.

The Jones rushing attack was led by freshman running Keshod Willis of Lumberton, who had 106 yards on 14 carries and scored on a one-yard.

Also scoring for Jones were sophomore running back Justin Harris of Morton, who gave the Bobcats a 7-0 lead on his four-yard run midway in the first period; freshman quarterback Kenneth Coleman of Hazlehurst, who tallied on a two-yard run; and freshman running back Jamal Hatten of Hattiesburg, whose two-yard plunge gave the Bobcats their final tally.

Sophomore kicker Grant McLaurin of Forrest County AHS connected on 47- and 45-yard field goals and made five of six PATs.

EC's rushing attack was led by sophomore Martin Johnson of Nanih Waiya, who had 15 attempts for 50 yards. Freshman running back Lamarcus Franks of Greene County contributed 22 yards on nine carries.

The Warriors host Mississippi Delta Community College in the annual homecoming battle Saturday, Oct. 12. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The Trojans are 0-5 prior to their matchup with Northwest Mississippi Community College scheduled Saturday, Oct. 5 on the Senatobia campus.

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WEEK OF Oct. 6, 2013

The Carthaginian,

Third-ranked Jones rolls

Struggles continue on the gridiron for the young East Central Community Warriors who were victims of another nationally-ranked team Thursday, Oct. 3 at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

After trailing just 7-0 following first-period action, East Central was simply no match for the No. 3 Jones County Junior College Bobcats who added 24 points in the second quarter on their way to an easy 47-0 victory.

Jones County improved to 6-0 overall and leads the MACJC South Division with a 4-0 mark. East Central dropped to 0-6 and 0-4.

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One such opportunity collapsed following the Bobcats' first score when the Warriors drove from their own 19 to the Jones County 32, where the drive stalled on fourth and short yardage. A highlight of the 49-yard march was JaDerrick Farrow's 12-yard run on a fake punt when EC faced fourth and six near midfield. Farrow is a freshman defensive back from Bleckley County High School in Blakely, Ga.

EC missed another scoring opportunity late in first-half action while trailing 31-0. Quarterback Donnie Farmer connected on a 61-yard pass play to wide receiver Hakeem Parker, which gave the Warriors possession on the Bobcat 10-yard-line. However, the drive stalled and Austin Franklin's 23-yard field goal attempt was partially blocked.

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The Bobcats were led by freshman quarterback Steven Swindle of Oak Grove, who completed eight of 10 passes for 192 yards and two scores.

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week of Oct. 6, 2013

Continued from previous page

over ECCC

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The Trojans are 0-5 prior to their matchup with Northwest Mississippi Community College scheduled Saturday.

WEEK OF Oct. 17 2013

East Central scores first win

Quarterback Donnie Farmer's 37-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell with 46 seconds remaining gave East Central Community a thrilling 36-31 homecoming victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Saturday, October 12 at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

Cockrell's finger-tip grab in the end zone provided the Warriors and first-year head coach Ken Karcher with their first victory of the 2013 campaign and snapped a six-game losing skid.

Following the non-division battle, Karcher said he was "very pleased" with the win and was "very proud" that his squad "never quit battling."

"I'm happy for the kids; it's been a long, emotional time for them," said Karcher. "It's been hard, but they kept fighting. Finally we played an evenly-matched team. The game could have gone either way...and our kids made a big play at the end."

The Warriors started well against the now 1-6 Trojans by putting up two scores in the first quarter – a 43-yard run by freshman speedster Lemarcus Franks with 9:40 remaining, followed by Farmer's 18-yard TD toss to Cockrell with 6:48 left. The first PAT attempt was blocked and Farmer ran for the two-point conversion following the second tally.

Farmer, a freshman product from Harrison Central, finished the day by completing 10 of 22 passes for 116 yards and two scores. Cockrell, a freshman from Columbus, led EC receivers with three grabs for 75 yards and the game-winning TD.

Delta got on the scoreboard when quarterback Jaylon Daniels of Greenwood and wide receiver Passarrio Collins of Itta Bena connected on a 41-yard scoring pass play with 5:30 left. The PAT failed.

The Trojans narrowed the EC advantage to 14-13 on Daniels' 27-yard TD pass to wide receiver Carlton Archer of Indianola early in second quarter action. Zacarion Goodman of Greenville added the PAT.

Delta took its first lead when Goodman split the uprights on his 26-yard field goal with four seconds left before halftime.

The Warriors regained the lead midway in the third stanza on sophomore running back Martin's Johnson's five-yard scamper, capping a nine-play, 62-yard march. Johnson is a product of Nanih Waiya High School. Farmer and Cockrell combined talents for the two-point conversion, which gave the Warriors a 22-16 advantage.

EC extended the lead to 30-16 early in the final stanza on Franks' 16-yard dash to pay dirt for his second tally and best day at running back, as he finished with 204 yards on 28 carries. Farmer again connected with Cockrell for the two-point conversion.

However, the Trojans were not done on this sunny afternoon and rallied for two scores and the lead.

Daniels fired an 11-yard TD strike to wide receiver Kamron Carter of Greenwood with 9:11 left, and following Goodman's PAT the Trojans closed the scoring gap to 30-23.

After an exchange of possession, Delta took over on its 32-yard line with 5:32 remaining, and eight plays later the visitors found the end zone on Daniel's 22-yard TD

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Weekly Oct. 13, 2013

Continued from previous page

over Delta

toss to Carter with 1:53 left.

Instead of tying the contest, the Trojans opted for the two-point conversion and were successful as workhorse running back Edward McCadney of Cleveland walked into the end zone untouched and gave his team a 31-30 advantage. McCadney led Delta rushers with 132 yards on 22 carries.

Warrior special teams member Desmond Grayson of Meridian returned the ensuing kickoff 32 yards to near midfield, and following Franks' 22-yard scamper on first down, EC was in scoring position at the Delta 35-yard line.

But after Franks lost two yards on first down, and following two incomplete passes, the Warriors faced fourth and 12 at the 37 and needed a miraculous play to finally enter the win column.

Farmer and Cockrell provided the "miraculous play," and the Warrior defense kept the Trojans from gaining a yard in their final possession, which began at the Delta 42.

Freshman linebacker Christian Wraggs of Louisville put an exclamation point to the victory when he sacked quarterback Daniels on fourth and 10. The Warrior offense ran out the clock and the celebration was under way.

East Central will be homecoming guest of division foe Pearl River Community College Saturday, Oct. 19. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m. on the Poplarville campus.

The Wildcats are 3-4 overall and 1-3 in the MACJC South Division following their 37-27 defeat to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Saturday, Oct. 12.

Warriors notch first win with late heroics

WEEK OF Oct. 13, 2013

From school reports

Quarterback Donnie Farmer's 37-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell with 46 seconds remaining gave East Central Community a thrilling 36-31 homecoming victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Saturday at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

Cockrell's finger-tip grab in the end zone provided the Warriors and first-year head coach Ken Karcher with their first victory of the 2013 campaign and snapped a six-game losing skid.

Following the non-division battle, Karcher said he was "very pleased" with the win and was "very proud" that his squad "never quit battling."

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WEEK OF 11.13.2013

ECCC Warriors claim first win of year

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WEEK OF Oct 12, 2003

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week of Oct. 13, 2013

Warriors continue to look forward heading into Homecoming

By Sarah Moomaw
smoomaw@themeridianstar.com

The East Central Community College football team hasn't spent a second of preparation time this season looking back at the 2012-13 campaign – not even this week.

On Saturday, the Warriors will lineup against Mississippi Delta Community College for ECCC's annual Homecoming game, just one year removed from a 26-21 upset of Hinds Community College.

"We haven't spoke at all about last year," head coach Ken Karcher said. "Our focus is not on the past. Our focus is on the future, so no, we haven't even discussed anything about last year."

Looking back at this year's match up from 2012 shows a 31-0 shutout by East Central, but once again, Karcher said the past hasn't been touched. His team isn't last year's team and he added that Delta is in a similar situation.

"We're in similar situations. New coaches trying to get a program heading in the right direction," Karcher said. "So all year our focus has been on what we do, not what they do."

This season is about the Warriors and building a program. While the opponent isn't the focus, Karcher said the Homecoming atmosphere is still very much present this week.

See WARRIORS on page B3

Continued on Next page

Paula Merritt / The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's (13) Anthony Ruffin looks for running room on a kick off return Thursday night against Jones County Junior College.

WEEK OF OCT 13, 2013

WARRIORS from page B1

"There's a lot of excitement," Karcher said. "In most places, Homecomings are big days, our young men are trying to find a way to win a football game." Here are five things to watch for in Saturday's 2 p.m. game:

1) Strength of schedule: A third of the NJCAA rankings is calculated by a computer that adds a strength of schedule component. The Warriors would certainly gain some help if the situation were to arise. This week is just the second time they'll face an unranked team this season after playing five teams up and down the Top 20. In Week 4, ECCC lost 24-7 to unranked Southwest Mississippi Community College.

2) Momentum builder: Delta has something ECCC desperately wants: a win in 2013. Last week, the Trojans grabbed a 34-27 decision of Northwest Mississippi Community College to end a five-game skid to open the season.

"It's another good opportunity for us," Karcher said. "Two teams that are a little bit more equal than they've been in the past. They've had their struggles just like we have. It's going to be an interesting game to see which team makes the most mistakes."

3) Watch out: Delta's Terrelle Williams is ranked third nationally in tackles per game, making him one to tango with. But at ECCC, Karcher said the team isn't in the right place to worry about just one person.

4) Too thin, too thick or just right?: It's all about consistency. Karcher said the Warriors just don't have any – accept for freshman running back Lamarcus Franks. On 64 carries this season, he's rushed for for 279 yards.

"He's been the most consistent all year of anyone on offense," Karcher said. "Other than that, we haven't had much consistency the way we want ... but for the most part the effort has been there."

5) Nice ring to it: As part of Homecoming festivities, the members of EMCC baseball team will receive their MACJC State Championship rings. The Diamond Warriors won the state title with a 4-0 victory of Northwest Mississippi Community College in May.

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WEEK OF Oct. 20, 2013

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Friday, October 25, 2013

East Central drops season finale

From staff reports

The East Central Community College football team's first season under Ken Karcher came to a close after a 49-7 loss to No. 5 Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Decatur on Thursday night.

Six costly turnovers put the game out of reach for the warriors as the Bulldogs scored in the first three quarters. A late 31-yard run by Lamarcus Franks with 9:41 left in regulation prevented the shutout. Franks rushed for 72 yards and one touchdown on 17 carries.

Gulf Coast got on the board early when Antwon Wells punched in a 1-yard score with 11:01 left in the first quarter. Justin Bristler ran for 5 yards for a second touchdown before the quarter ended to go up 14-0.

In the second quarter, the Bulldogs' Justin Evans caught and returned an interception for a 35-yard touchdown. Former Warrior quarterbck Culton Kane found Jeremey Cutreler for a 33-yard pass to make it 21-0.

Gulf Coast backup quarterback Terian Page connected with Dahaqulle Williams on a 4-yard touchdown pass with 6:09 left in the second quarter. TJ McCainn added a 20-yard run before the first half expired to take a 42-0 lead into the break.

McCainn added the Bulldogs final score with 39 seconds left in the third quarter.

With the loss, East Central fell to 1-8 on the season (0-6 MACJC South) while Gulf Coast finishes the regular season at 8-1 (5-1).

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GAME BALL

Retired U. S. Marine Corps First Sergeant I.E. 'Sarge' Wilkinson (left) of Forest presented the game ball to East Central Community College President Dr. Billy Stewart prior to the football team's home final against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Thursday, October 24. Wilkinson, a 30-year veteran and recipient of numerous honors for his service in World War II and the Korean Conflict, was among area veterans in attendance for Military Appreciation Night at the College. All veterans served as honorary team captains and were honored at midfield prior to kick off.

ECCC PHOTO

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Warriors fall 42-0 to MGCCC

A salute to military veterans and recognition of sophomore football players highlighted the season finale for East Central Community College's Warriors who were once again victims of a national power.

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College proved worthy of its No. 5 ranking as the Bulldogs cruised to a 42-0 halftime advantage and completed the onslaught with a 49-7 MACJC South Division victory Thursday, Oct. 24 at Bailey Stadium in Decatur.

Gulf Coast, which improved to 8-1 overall and 5-1 in division play, finished second to division winner Jones County Junior College and will face North Division winner East Mississippi Community College in first-round action of the MACJC State Playoffs scheduled Saturday, November 2. Jones County and North Division runner-up Itawamba Community College will meet in the other semi-final contest.

The Warriors finished 1-8 overall and 0-6 in league competition under first-year head coach Ken Karcher.

Pre-game activities featured a tribute to military veterans - who were recognized as honorary team captains - and included a presentation of the game ball by U.S. Marine Corps First Sergeant (Retired) I.E. "Sarge" Wilkinson of Forest. Wilkinson, a 30-year veteran and recipient of numerous honors for his service in World War II and the Korean Conflict, was accompanied by his great-great niece-in-law, sophomore cheerleader Payton Smith, also of Forest, as he presented the game football to ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart.

Sophomore football players also received special recognition and were accompanied by family members or special guests during the pre-game ceremony.

It did not take long for the high-powered Gulf Coast offense to find the end zone as running back Antwon Wells of Hurley crossed the goal line from one-yard out with 11:01 left in the first period. Tristan Reynolds connected on the first of his seven PATs on the night.

Justin Brister extended the Bulldog lead to 14-0 when the running back from D'Iberville tallied on a five-yard rushing play with 5:05 left in the initial period.

The Bulldogs added 28 points in the second quarter, beginning with defensive back Justin Evans' 36-yard interception return for a score with 13:15 left before halftime. The turnover was one of six Warrior miscues during the division battle.

Former ECCC quarterback Colton Kane of Navarre, Fla., stretched

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week of Oct. 27, 2013

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in finale

the lead to 28-0 following his 33-yard TD toss to wide receiver Jermey Cutrer of Kentwood, La., with 9:30 left in the stanza.

Back-up quarterback Terrian Page of Taylorsville connected with wide receiver Dhaquille Williams of Laplace, La., on a four-yard scoring pass play for a 35-0 advantage with 6:09 left before the break.

Running back T.J. McCann of Leakesville completed first-half scoring with his 20-yard scamper to pay dirt with 3:05 left.

McCann tallied again for the Bulldogs on his two-yard run in the final seconds of third-quarter action.

The Warriors got on the scoreboard following speedster Lamarcus Franks' 31-yard sprint to the end zone with 9:41 remaining in the final stanza. Austin Franklin of Petal added the PAT.

Franks, a freshman running back from Greene County High School, led EC rushers with 72 yards on 13 carries.

Sophomore running back Martin Johnson of Nanih Waiya contributed 44 yards on 11 carries.

Donnie Farmer and freshman Anthony Triplett of Philadelphia shared quarterback duties and combined for two completions on nine attempts for 18 yards.

WEEK OF 9-11-3 2013

Spirit of Morton

ECCC Flag Football Champs

"Hometown Heroes" captured top honors in the intramural flag football completion held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Percy Lewis, Morton; Jonathan Hunt, Louisville; Jeremiah Chapman, Newton; JaDarrias Patrick, Decatur; Davais Scharrer, Louisville; Charles Griffin, Carthage; and Rodrick Young, Newton; and (standing from left) Nick Nichols, Morton; Antonio Parrott, Walnut Grove; William Howington, Little Rock; and Devonte Gardner, Keondre' Hodges, Kenadaria Watts, Walter Johnson and Coach Javaris Moore, all of Newton. (EC Photo)

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ECCC runner up

Oct. 28, 2013
Cutline:
ECCC Flag Football Runners-Up

"Hoopers on the Field" finished second in the intramural football flag football competition held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Quintin Darden, Louisville; LaRomeo McKee, Forest; Camall Minor, Starkville; and Matthew Everette, Winona; and (standing from left) Brian Wright, Kosciusko; Malcolm Stubbs, Jackson; Shedrick Fair, Aberdeen; and Dee Carter, Forest. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Nov. 3, 2013

ECCC Football Sophomores honored

These sophomore members of the 2013 East Central Community College football team were honored Thursday, October 24, prior to the Warriors' home finale against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Pictured are (from left) Chris Apperwhite (5), Laurel; Blake Bateaste (12), D'Iberville; James Clark (10), Laurel; Donnie Farmer (11), Harrison Central; Austin Franklin (20), Petal; Layton Holcom (82), Oak Grove; Martin Johnson (7), Nanih Waiya; Hakeem Parker (2), Joseph S. Clark HS (New Orleans); Jeremy Pyles (90), Oxford; Kyron Samuels (60), Fairhope, AL; Wesley Smith (83), Morton; and Zachary Thigpen (41), Laurel. Each player was introduced at midfield as head coach Ken Karcher presented flowers to their mothers. In addition to sophomore night, area veterans were honored during pregame ceremonies as part of Military Appreciation Night. (EC

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WEEK OF Dec. 1, 2013

3 EC football players selected

From school reports

Three East Central Community College football players were selected to participate in the annual MACJC All-Star Football Classic scheduled Thursday, Dec. 5 at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville.

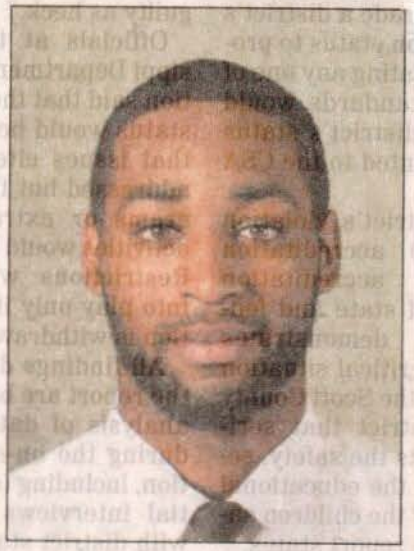
Wide receiver Hakeem Parker of New Orleans, tight end/H-back Layton Holcomb of Hattiesburg and punter Austin Franklin of Petal are members of the South squad in the 40th annual event. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. at Tiger Stadium.

Parker (6-4, 205) is a product of Joseph S. Clark High School; Holcomb (6-2, 220), Oak Grove; and Franklin (6', 180), Petal.

Northeast has served as host of the annual matchup of the MACJC's best sophomore athletes for 27 consecutive years dating back to the mid-1980s. The 2013 game is the first time during that span in which the contest has been moved from its usual Saturday afternoon slot.

"We are really proud of the administration helping us make that move," said Tigers head coach Ricky Smither. "It's a great game, so I'm glad that we were able to continue it. This is best for the whole state with us doing this."

Holcomb



Parker

Sophomores from all 14 institutions of the MACJC are eligible to participate in the annual tradition. However, student-athletes from East Mississippi Community College and Hinds Community College will not participate due their selections for National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA)-sanctioned bowl games.

Thirty-three players comprise both the North and South rosters with each college contributing three athletes. The All-Star coaches select the remainder of the roster, but no more than eight players from one school are allowed.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

Dec 1, 2013

3B

MACJC All-Stars

Franklin

Players are slated to report to Booneville at noon Tuesday, Dec. 3. The gridiron standouts will have three practices before the contest - one session Tuesday and two workouts Wednesday.

Pearl River Community College head coach William Jones and his staff will direct the South squad. Headman Jeff Tatum and the Mississippi Delta Community College coaches will lead the North.

The MACJC All-Star Football Classic has been a springboard to the next level since its inception. Numerous athletes from past matchups have received scholarships at four-year institutions in NCAA Divisions I and II and NAIA.

The practice sessions allow coaches from the various levels of competition to come to one location and scout the best talent that each MACJC member has to offer.

"It gives these schools an opportunity to make one trip and see a multitude of players from probably the best league in the country," Smither said. "It's huge and it helps the kids a lot."

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WEEK OF Dec. 15, 2013

ECCC football players honored

These members of the 2013 East Central Community College football squad received honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. From left are running back Lamarcus Franks, a product of Greene County High School, most valuable player and offensive captain award; running back Martin Johnson of Nanih Waiya, academic award; defensive lineman Daryl Rogers of Laurel, most improved defensive player; defensive back JaDerrick Farrow, a product of Bleckley County High in Cochran, Ga., defensive captain award; wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell of Columbus, most improved offensive player. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, head coach Ken Karcher and assistants Cody Wilson, Todd Bates, Charles Jones and Eric Gray presented awards. Sophomore players were also honored by assistant coaches Mickey Mays and Scott Brock. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 3, 2013

Patterson leads ECCC golf team

Shelby Patterson scores 180

DECATUR — East Central Community College's golf team finished fourth in MACJC Event #1 held Feb. 3-4 at Diamondhead Country Club in Bay St. Louis.

The Warrior linksters posted rounds of 319 and 328 for a 647 total in the 36-hole competition, won by tournament host MS Gulf Coast Community College. The Bulldog squad carded a 621 total after rounds of 316 and 305.

Sophomore Lee McDill of Newton led EC with a pair of 77's for a 154 total. The Newton County High School product finished tied for fifth and qualified for the All-Tournament Team.

Other team members and their respective scores include Sawyer Williams of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, Ark., 161 (85-76); Taylor York of Choctaw Central, 168 (80-88); Aaron Tucker of Leake Central, 178 (91-87); Shelby Patterson of Forest, 180 (77-103); and Evan Dowell of Carthage, 182 (92-90).

Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.

Other teams participating and their respective scores include Copiah-Lincoln, 624 (314-310); East MS, 635 (314-310); Northwest MS, 655 (338-317); Itawamba, 673 (343-330); Jones County, 691 (345-346); Northeast MS, 696 (348-348); Hinds, 719 (360-359); and Holmes, 737 (372-365).

The second MACJC event of 2013 is scheduled March 2-3 at the Eagle Ridge Golf Course in Raymond and hosted by Hinds Community College.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 16, 2013

EC golfers place fourth in tourney

From school reports

East Central Community College's golf team finished fourth in MACJC Event #1 held Feb. 3-4 at Diamondhead Country Club in Bay St. Louis.

The Warrior linksters posted rounds of 319 and 328 for a 647 total in the 36-hole competition, won by tournament host MS Gulf Coast Community College. The Bulldog squad carded a 621 total after rounds of 316 and 305.

Sophomore Lee McDill of Newton led EC with a pair of 77's for a 154 total. The Newton County High School product finished tied for fifth and qualified for the All-Tournament Team.

Other team members and their respective scores include Sawyer Williams of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, Ark., 161 (85-76); Taylor York of Choctaw Central, 168 (80-88); Aaron Tucker of Leake Central, 178 (91-87); Shelby Patterson of Forest, 180 (77-103); and Evan Dowell of Carthage, 182 (92-90).

Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.

Other teams participating and their respective scores include Copiah-Lincoln, 624 (314-310); East MS, 635 (314-310); Northwest MS, 655 (338-317); Itawamba, 673 (343-330); Jones County, 691 (345-346); Northeast MS, 696 (348-348); Hinds, 719 (360-359); and Holmes, 737 (372-365).

The second MACJC event of 2013 is scheduled March 2-3 at the Eagle Ridge Golf Course in Raymond and hosted by Hinds Community College.

Tryouts set for ECCC women's soccer team

Tryouts for the 2013 East Central Community College women's soccer team will be held Saturday, Feb. 23 on the Decatur campus, announced recently named Lady Warrior soccer coach Gray Massey.

Massey officially begins his new duties in June 2013.

Tryouts begin at 1 p.m. on the EC soccer field. Prospective team members are asked to arrive at 12:30 p.m. to complete paperwork required for the application process. Scholarships are available.

For more information, contact Coach Gray Massey, 601-421-9913.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF February 24, 2013

McDill named to All-Tournament team

East Central Community College golf team member Lee McDill of Newton was named to the MACJC Event # 1 All-Tournament Golf Team following competition held Feb. 3-4 at Diamondhead Country Club in Bay St. Louis. McDill tied for fifth-place after posting a pair of 77's for a 154 total in the 36-hole event. The Newton County High School product helped lead the Warriors to a fourth-place finish in the 36-hole event, won by host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Chris Clark serves as EC golf coach.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF March 17, 2013

EC golfers finish fifth in Co-Lin tournament

East Central Community College's golf team placed fifth in MACJC Event #3 held March 17-18, on the Wolf Hollow course at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

The Warrior linksters carded a 621 (308-313) in the 36-hole competition, won by Northwest MS Community College with a 592 (298-294) total. Host Co-Lin finished second at 593 (303-290), followed by MS Gulf Coast, 611 (317-294); East MS, 619 (309-310); ECCC; Itawamba, 632 (316-316); Northeast MS, 643 (328-315); Jones County, 648 (327-321); Hinds, 656 (333-323); and Holmes, 658 (336-322)

Taylor York and Sawyer Williams each carded a 155 total to lead EC. York had rounds of 81 and 74 while Williams posted scores of 77 and 78. York is a product of Choctaw Central High School and Williams hails from Porters Chapel in El Dorado, Ark.

Teammates Lee McDill of Newton County finished at 157 (77-80) followed by Shelby Patterson of Forest, 158 (77-81); Aaron Tucker of Leake Central, also at 158 (77-81); and Evan Dowell of Carthage, 176 (87-89).

Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.

Competition continues later this month with MACJC Event #4, scheduled March 25-26 at North Creek in Southaven and Wedgewood in Olive Branch. Northwest MS Community College serves as host.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

Warrior Golf Classic set for June 27

Scholarships for East Central Community College students will again be the top prize winner when the annual Warrior Golf Classic is held this summer at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw.

This year's four-person scramble is scheduled for Thursday, June 27 on the Azaleas Golf Course. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and will be followed by a shot gun start at 10 a.m.

Sponsored by the ECCC Alumni Association, the 12th annual event provides funding for student scholarships.

"The Warrior Golf Classic provides much-needed and appreciated scholarships for East Central students," said tournament coordinator Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth who serves as executive director for foundation and alumni relations. "Since the tournament began in 2001, more than $40,000 in scholarships has been awarded to students who reside in our five-county district. We certainly appreciate the support received for the tournament the past 11 years and encourage others to participate in this worthwhile event."

Entry fee is $125 per person, which includes green fee, golf cart and lunch, which will be served buffet-style beginning at approximately 2:30 p.m., prior to the awards ceremony.

Corporate sponsorships are also available at the following levels: Gold, $650 (includes fees for a four-person team and a hole sponsorship); Silver, $400 (includes fees for two players and a hole sponsorship); and Bronze, $200 (includes a hole sponsorship).

Food and beverage sponsorship is available for $500, and T-shirt sponsorships are $100.

Awards will be presented to the Corporate Division champion and the top three teams. Various on-course prizes will also be provided.

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF April 28, 2013

EC golfer Patterson qualifies for nationals

East Central Community College golfer Shelby Patterson (left) of Forest received All-Region 23 honors and qualified for the NJCAA Division II National Championship following competition in the NJCAA Region 23, Division II Tournament held April 22-23 on the Azaleas course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. Patterson recorded rounds of 74 and 78 for a 152 total and finished tied for fourth in the individual competition. The Warrior golf team placed third with a 634 (312-322) total in the 36-hole contest, won by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's 615 (311-304). At right is Chris Clark, golf coach at East Central, which served as tournament host. The national tournament is scheduled May 21-24 at the Goose Pond Colony Golf Club in Scottsboro, Ala. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 29, 2013

Warriors honor S. Patterson

DECATUR — Numerous student-athletes received honors at the 2013 Spring Sports Awards Banquet held April 30 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

There was just one student-athlete from Scott County listed among the award recipients.

Shelby Patterson, a sophomore of Forest, was named All-Region 23 and scholar athlete.

Patterson

Patterson was scheduled to represent ECCC last week at the 2013 NJCAA Division II National Championship scheduled May 21-24 at the Goose Pond Colony Golf Club in Scottsboro, Ala.

In the all-region honor, Patterson posted rounds of 74 and 78 for a 152 total and led East Central Community College to a third-place finish in the NJCAA Region 23, Division II Championship held in April.

Patterson was among five golfers who received All-Region 23 honors and qualified for the NJCAA Division II National Championship.

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WEEK OF June 12, 2013

Patterson scores well in tourney

Patterson

SCOTTSBORO, Ala. — Shelby Patterson of Forest represented East Central Community College in the 2012-13 NJCAA Division II National Golf Tournament, held May 21-24 on the Goose Pond Colony golf course in Scottsboro, Ala.

Patterson recorded rounds of 83, 83, 82 and 86 for a 331 total in the four-day event.

The Forest High School product qualified to compete in the national tournament following his selection on the NJCAA All-Region 23 Division II Team.

Patterson posted rounds of 74 and 78 for a 152 total in leading the Warrior golf team to a third-place finish in the region competition held April 22-23 at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. ECCC served as tournament host.

"I cannot express adequately how proud I am of Shelby in making the All-Region Team and earning the privilege of participating in the NJCAA Golf Tournament. It is an opportunity that not many individuals get to experience. Shelby has represented ECCC well, both on the course and off, during two years in our program," said Chris Clark, who serves as Warrior golf coach.

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WEEK OF June 26, 2013

ECCC Warrior Golf Classic set June 27

Scholarships for East Central Community College students will again be the top prize winner when the annual Warrior Golf Classic is held this week at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw.

The four-person scramble is scheduled for Thursday, June 27 on the Azaleas Golf Course.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. and will be followed by a shot gun start at 10 a.m.

Sponsored by the ECCC Alumni Association, the 12th annual event provides funding for student scholarships.

"The Warrior Golf Classic provides much-needed and appreciated scholarships for East Central students," said tournament coordinator Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth who serves as executive director for foundation and alumni relations.

"Since the tournament began in 2001, more than $40,000 in scholarships has been awarded to students who reside in our five-county district. We certainly appreciate the support received for the tournament the past 11 years and encourage others to participate in this worthwhile event."

Entry fee is $125 per person, which includes green fee, golf cart and lunch, which will be served buffet-style beginning at approximately 2:30 p.m., prior to the awards ceremony.

Corporate sponsorships are also available at the following levels: Gold, $650 (includes fees for a four-person team and a hole sponsorship); Silver, $400 (includes fees for two players and a hole sponsorship); and Bronze, $200 (includes a hole sponsorship).

Food and beverage sponsorship is available for $500, and T-shirt sponsorships are $100.

Awards will be presented to the Corporate Division champion and the top three teams. Various on-course prizes will also be provided.

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF July 3, 2013

JONES INKS ECCC GOLF SCHOLARSHIP

Former Forest High School golf standout Michael Jones (seated) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Jones is a two-time All-State selection and received All-District honors on three occasions. He twice earned District Medalist honors and finished State Medalist runner-up his senior year. He placed third for State Medalist recognition as a junior. Jones helped lead the Bearcats to six district championships and three state runner-up titles. Pictured with the new Warrior golfer are (standing from left) his parents, Darhlene and David Jones of Forest, and EC golf coach Chris Clark.

ECCC PHOTO

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WEEK OF July 10, 2013

Amis awarded scholarship

Jonathan Amis (seated), a former golf standout at Newton County High School, is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Amis was an All-District selection and twice won medalist and co-medalist honors in local competition. He was also recognized for having the lowest scoring average in 2013 on the Cougar golf team. Also pictured are his mother, Cheryl Amis, and EC golf coach Chris Clark. The new Warrior golfer is also the son of George Amis.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF July 24, 2013

Closest-to-pin winners

East Central Community College President Dr. Billy Stewart, left, of Decatur and Larry Waggoner of Carthage were among "closest-to-the-pin" winners in the 12th Annual ECCC Warrior Golf Classic held Thursday, June 27 at the Dancing Rabbit Club in Choctaw. Also earning closest-to-the-pin honors were Bob Jordan of Kosciusko and Will Whittington of Carthage, who also recorded the second hole-in-one in tournament history. Gage Walker of Brandon won the Birdies for Charity Closest to the Line driving contest. Sponsored by the ECCC Alumni Association, the Warrior Golf Classic serves as a fundraiser for student scholarships. This year's event netted $11,300, according to event organizer Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF July 29, 2013

Community Bank wins Warrior Golf Classic

Community Bank took home the championship trophy but area students were the real winners following the 12th annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 27, at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw.

Sponsored by the ECCC Alumni Association, this year's four-person scramble netted $11,300 for student scholarships, according to Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

Since the tournament's inception in 2001, more than $40,000 in scholarships have been awarded to students residing in the College's district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. Scholarship presentations are made during the annual ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Awards Luncheon held in June.

Community Bank carded an 18-under par 54 to claim overall and corporate division honors in the 18-hole event, held on the Azaleas course. Team members included Steve Gibson of Forest, Tim Leitaker of Carthage and Ray Riley and Gary Jolly, both of Madison.

The Sean Mowdy team (Sean Mowdy, Jody Blount, Tim Cleveland and Eric Graham, all of Union) finished Championship Fight runners-up with a 55, followed by Cox and Associates (Aubry Cox, Jimmie Bell and Jimmy Brown, all of Carthage; and Bob Jordan of Kosciusko), 56; Southern Pine Electric Power (Ken McBroom, Michael Tolbert and Jason Siegfried, all of Brandon, and Will Whittington, Carthage), 56; Trustmark National Bank (Larry Waggoner, Randy Carson, Frank Rhea and Matt Gregory, all of Carthage), 57; Glynn Griffing and Associates (Milton Walker, Brent Walker, Gage Walker and Joel Ross, all of Brandon), 58; and Prince Oil Company Team 1 (Neil Pettigrew and Wayne Hielbronner, both of Kosciusko, and Ben Peebles and Mark Fleming, both of Philadelphia), 59.

First Financial Bank Team II captured First Flight honors with a 61. Team members included Gayden Bell and Ty Johnston, both of Carthage; and Melissa Jerry and Steve Cameron, both of El Dorado, Ark.

The Chris Harris/Stifel Nicholas team (Chris Harris and Robert Thompson, both of Decatur; Rickey Chaney, Little Rock; Barry Boatner, Meridian; and Joey Smith, Quitman) finished First Flight runners-up with a 62, followed by IN Sports, Inc. (Greg Nowell and Jim Eakes, both of Philadelphia; Wes Kight, Louisville; and Andy Woidtke, Canton), 62; Tyson Foods, Inc. in Forest (Eddie McDill, Hal Patterson and Shelby Patterson, all of Forest; Steve Langford, Lena), 62; Prince Oil Company Team II (Joey Walters, Michael Graham and J.B. Ware, all of Union; Jacob Hedgepeth, Philadelphia), 62; and Industrial Training Solutions (Chris Crawford, Ridgeland; Joe Barrett and Chris Clark, both of Decatur; Roger Whitlock, Union), 63.

First Financial Bank Corporate Team I won the Second Flight with a 65. Team members included Jerry Bullard and Chris Hegi, both of El Dorado, Ark.; and Brad Ogletree and Van Ray Bowman, both of Carthage.

Valley Food Services, Inc. (Tau Iosia, Meridian; Ken Ricketts and Randy Roberts, both of Brandon; and Tony Myers, Madison) finished second with a 66, followed by Polo Custom Products, Inc. (Tanner Long, Tyler Maffit, Chris Covington and Jack Edmonson, all of Louisville), 68; La-Z-Boy South Corporate Team II (Danny Simoneau, Louin; Dustin Yeager, Little Rock; Chris Davis, Decatur; and Brian Waddell, Philadelphia), 68; Sequel Electrical Supply (Artie Foreman and Virgil Rigdon, both of Little Rock; Duane Ashmore, Collinsville; and Tim Pilgrim, Philadelphia), 70; La-Z-Boy South Corporate Team I (Don Mather and Tom Keith, both of Decatur; Kevin Rigdon, Union; and Randy Loper, Rose Hill), 72; and Neshoba County General Hospital (Dale Joyner, Philadelphia; Johnny Crenshaw, Union; and Dr. Billy Stewart and Ronnie Westbrook, both of Decatur), 74.

Will Whittington of Carthage made the "shot of the day" by recording the second hole-in-one in tournament history and obviously claiming closest-to-the-pin honors. He aced the 135-yard #4 and was presented a Taylor Made golf bag provided by the ECCC Golf Team.

Also winning closest-to-the-pin honors were Dr. Billy Stewart of Decatur, on #13; Larry Waggoner of Carthage, on #7; and Bob Jordan of Kosciusko, on # 16.

Gage Walker of Brandon won the Birdies for Charity closest to the line driving contest.

Tau Iosia of Meridian won the top door prize — a recliner donated by La-Z-Boy South, Inc., in Newton.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

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WEEK OF 8-11-13

Ginn signs with East Central Miss. Community College

By Chris Kinkaid THE DAILY NEWS | Posted: Sunday, August 11, 2013 7:17 pm

Franklinton High School 2012 graduate Karlton Ginn has signed a letter of intent to attend East Central Mississippi Community College in Decatur, Miss. and play golf for the Warriors.

The school is about 30 miles west of Meridian.

"I like it," Ginn said. "It's a little school up there. It's not too big or too small. I don't have any friends up there, but I had to do what was best for my future. I didn't have to think about it too hard, it took me about a week. Coach Chris Clark is one of the nicest guys I've ever met. When we went up there for the tour and I had to play in front of him, he answered any questions I had. He gave me his number in case I had other questions. We keep in touch everyday."

Ginn, who went to Delgado Community College in New Orleans this past school year, didn't play this past season after having elbow surgery. He broke his elbow at the beginning of basketball season his senior year at Franklinton. He had to have surgery last summer because the pins started coming out.

Ginn, who works at Money Hill Golf and Country Club in Abita Springs, shot his lowest round there with a 68.

Ginn feels he is a better golfer now than he was in high school.

"Something clicked when I got out of high school. I wasn't bad in high school, I was in the top 10 in the state my senior year," Ginn said.

During Ginn's time at Franklinton, the Demons won three district titles and he finished in Class 4A's top 10 twice. Ginn was eighth his junior year and ninth his senior season.

Ginn said his strength is ball striking.

Karlton is the son of Randall and Christine Ginn.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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Other ✓

May 2, 2013

Gray Massey named new women's soccer coach at ECCC

After leading Florence High School soccer teams to three consecutive state titles during a highly successful eight-year tenure as head coach, Gray Massey hopes to continue his success on the college level.

Massey was recently selected women's soccer coach at East Central Community College in Decatur.

He officially begins his new duties in June 2013.

Massey, 35, succeeds Kenneth Thompson who has led the Lady Warrior program since its inception in 2005.

Thompson continues to serve as men's soccer coach.

The new Lady Warrior Soccer head mentor said coaching soccer on the college level has been a goal since he was a teenager.

He brings more than just a successful high school career to his new position.

"I bring energy, excitement and a passion for the game that will translate to our players," said Massey. "I am looking forward to the challenge as I also keep pushing myself to get better as a coach. I'm looking forward to the upcoming season and recruiting quality student-athletes who are willing to do what is necessary for East Central to have a successful program."

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said Massey is a welcomed addition to the College's coaching staff.

"Gray Massey is an outstanding coach with a proven track record of commitment to both the academic achievement and athletic development of student-athletes under his leadership," said Dr. Stewart. "As a successful coach of championship programs at Florence High School, he knows what it takes to build and maintain a successful soccer program. The search committee and I are confident he is the right person to elevate women's soccer at East Central to new heights. We have no doubt that Coach Massey will build our women's soccer program the 'EC Way – Excellence with Class' as that embodies Gray as both a person and a coach. We welcome Gray and his family to the East Central family. We are excited that he will be leading the women's soccer program at East Central Community College."

Gray Massey

Massey led the Lady Eagles soccer team to two straight state championships, the most recent coming Saturday, Feb. 2, with a 2-0 victory over West Lauderdale for the MHSAA Class 4A title.

The 2012-13 Lady Eagles finished 16-5-3. Massey also coached the boys' soccer team to the 2011 state championship.

He is recognized as only the second high school soccer coach to lead both girls' and boys' teams to state soccer titles.

Massey's coaching success has not gone unnoticed, as evident by his numerous accolades.

Honors received as boys' coach include NFHS Mississippi Coach of the Year in 2012, 2012 All-Star Coach, 2011 Mississippi Association of Coaches Boys' Soccer Coach of the Year and District Coach of the Year (2006-12).

In addition to the state title in 2011, his Florence Eagles won South State championships in 2007, 2008 and 2011 and captured district titles from 2006-11.

The Soccer Eagles were South State finalists in 2006 and 2010 and North State finalists in 2013.

As girls' soccer coach, Massey received District Coach of the Year honors in 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

In addition to the two state titles, the Lady Eagles won District titles from 2007-2011 and finished South State finalist in 2007.

Massey was also selected 2012 Teacher of the Year at Florence High School, where he teaches U.S. History, Introduction to World Geography and Mississippi Studies.

Massey's resume includes serving as coach for the Jackson Futbol Club and Aggieland Soccer Club Teams.

He has also worked as a goal keeper coach at Texas A&M Women's Soccer Camp summer camps in College Station.

Massey, a Brandon native, is a former standout soccer player at Northwest Rankin High School.

He received a soccer scholarship to Hinds Community College where the goalkeeper was an All-Region 23 selection in 1996.

He continued his success at Mississippi College in Clin where in 1998 he was nar second team All-East Division in the Ameri Southwest Conference.

He received a bachel degree in sociology Mississippi College in M 2001.

He expects to complet master's degree in coach education at Ohio University Athens, Ohio, in August 201

He holds Natio Goalkeeper and National Yo licenses from the United St Soccer Federation.

He also holds Advan National and Natio Goalkeeper diplomas from National Soccer Coac Association of America. In a tion, he holds a National Coaching License with United States So Federation.

He and his wife, Lau have two children, Reid, 1 and Ryleigh, two.

APPEARED IN:
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WEEK OF March 31, 2013

Hennington signs with ECCC

Outstanding Lady Rocket Soccer player, Jessie Hennington signed a scholarship with East Central Community College. With her family are: front, from left, mother, Amy Norris, Jessie Hennington, father, Joe Hennington, and grandmother Ruby Hennington. Middle row, step-father, Nels Norris, Lady Rocket Head Coach Nathan Sistrunk, stepmother, Amy Hennington, and ECCC Soccer Men's Coach Kenneth Thompson. In back are Asst. High School Principal Lashon Horne, Lady Rocket Soccer Asst. Coach Wade Pierce, ECCC Soccer Women's Coach Gray Massey, and Asst. High School Principal Jimmy Buchanan.

Golf

East Central Community College's golf team finished seventh in MACJC Event #4 held March 25-26, 2013, at Wedgewood Golfers Club in Olive Branch and North Creek Golf Club in Southaven.

Tournament host Northwest Mississippi Community College and Copiah-Lincoln Community College shared top honors in the 36-hole competition by carding a 627 total.

Northwest posted rounds of 319 and 308, and Co-Lin carded scores of 309 and 318.

Mississippi Gulf Coast shot 640 (331-309), followed by Jones County, 647 (334-313), East MS, 649 (336-313); Hinds, 679 (346-333); ECCC, 684 (352-332); Itawamba, 698 (356-342); and Northeast MS, 712

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WEEK OF April 21, 2013

JOINING THE WARRIORS

Submitted Photo

Southeast Lauderdale High School soccer standout Kennedy McReynolds (seated left) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College in Decatur. McReynolds, a midfielder, is a first-team All-District selection and also earned team most valuable and best offensive player awards. She has 13 years of soccer experience. The new Lady Warrior is shown with (seated at right) her father, Kevin McReynolds, and (standing from left) Kenneth Thompson, ECCC men's soccer coach; Miguel Mata, Southeast Lauderdale soccer assistant; Gray Massey, ECCC women's soccer coach; and Mike Thomas, Southeast Lauderdale head soccer coach.

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WEEK OF April 28, 2013

ECCC SOCCER SIGNINGS

ECCC photos

(Top):D'Iberville High School soccer standouts Jerry Byrd (seated second from left) and Tim Nix were recently welcomed as new soccer team members at East Central Community College in Decatur.(Bottom Left): Alana Walker (seated center) was recently selected to serve as a soccer team manager at East Central Community College in Decatur. Walker, a former soccer standout at Pascagoula High School, is recovering from a knee injury and is expected to join the Lady Soccer Warriors in 2014.(Bottom right):Stone County High School standout soccer player Nicholas Breland (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Breland, a midfielder, was an All-District selection in 2010-11 and 2011-12.

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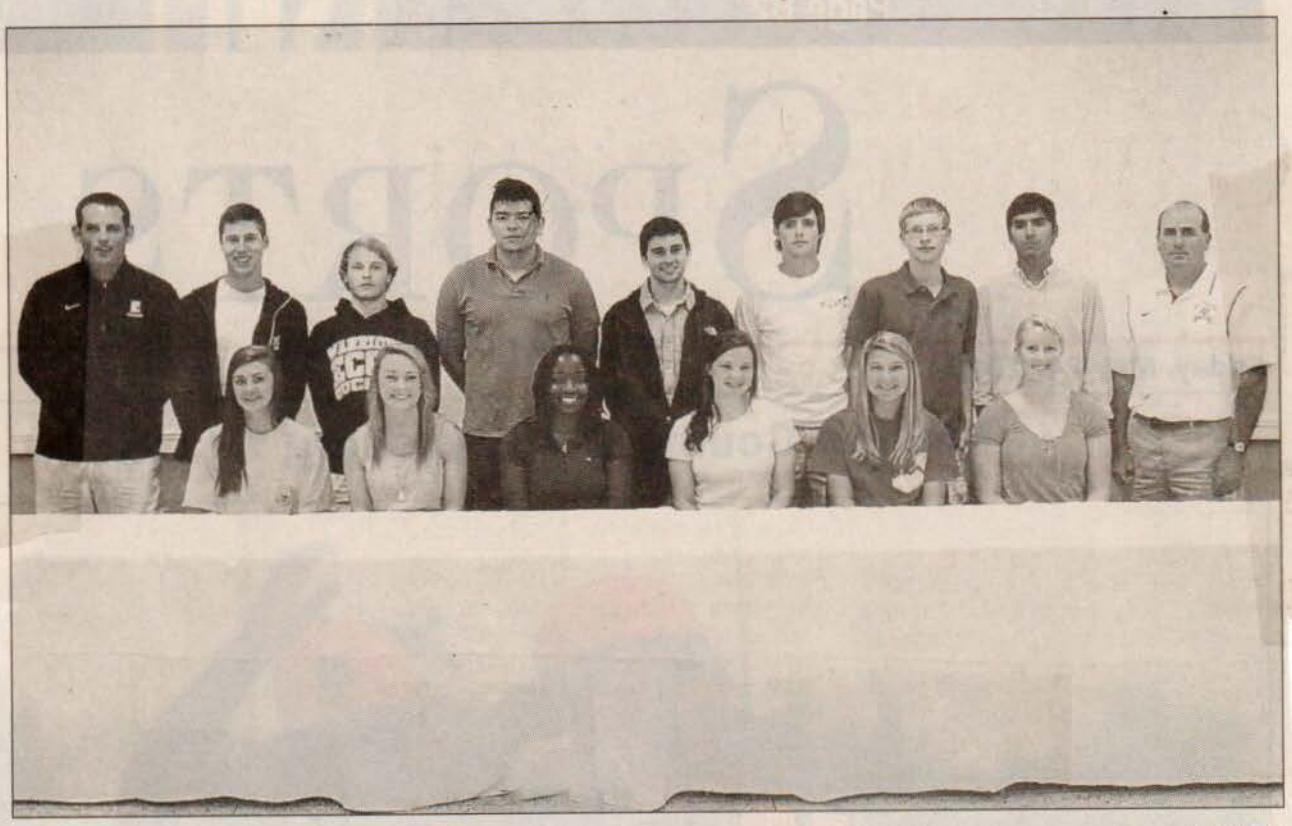
WEEK OF May 24, 2013

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Friday, May 24, 2013

EAST CENTRAL SOCCER SIGNEES



ECCC Photo

New members of East Central Community College's soccer teams were recognized during a ceremony held recently on the Decatur campus. Joining the Lady Warriors and Warriors in 2013-14 are (seated from left) Kennedy McReynolds, a product of Southeast Lauderdale High School; Ashlan Culberson, Brandon; Tesia Keith, Corinth; Jessie Hennington, Neshoba Central; Addie Ambrosier, Magee; and Alana Walker (manager), Pascagoula; and (standing second from left) Matt Sykes, Heritage Academy; Tim Nix, D'Iberville; Daniel Casaca, Forest; Nick Breland, Stone; Dalton Smith, Florence; Jerry Byrd, D'Iberville; and Hector Ortiz, Enterprise, who are shown with Lady Warrior head coach Gray Massey (left) and Warrior head coach Kenneth Thompson. Signees not pictured include Tamia Cavett, Murrah; Erika Joyner, West Lauderdale; Jesus Onefre, Forest; Chase McNair; Neshoba Central; and Mason Boyer (manager), Hahnville, La. EC begins the 2013 soccer campaign by traveling to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday, August 22. Game times are 4 and 6:30 p.m. on the Wesson campus.

APPEARED IN:

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June 19, 2013

Team makes presentation

The 2013 East Central Community College men's soccer team experienced its best season in the program's history by capturing a share of the MACJC North Division title and qualifying for post-season competition. The Soccer Warriors went 5-2-1 in league play and finished 10-6-3 overall under 14-year head coach Kenneth Thompson. Coach Thompson and team members recently presented an autographed soccer ball to ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart in recognition of the historic season. Matt Taylor, a freshman team member and Clarkdale High School product, is shown making the presentation to Dr. Stewart.

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WEEK OF Aug 11, 2013

EC Soccer hopes to repeat

From school reports

For the first time in school history, the East Central Community College men's soccer team begins season action as defending division champions.

The Soccer Warriors, who travel to Copiah-Lincoln Community College for the season opener scheduled at 6 p.m. Thursday, August 22 in Wesson, experienced their most successful campaign in 2012, earning a share of the MACJC North Division title by posting a 5-2-1 mark. EC advanced to the MACJC State Soccer Tournament en route to a 10-6-3 record under Kenneth Thompson, who completed his 14th season leading the Warrior program.

Coach Thompson said the goal this year is to win an outright division title and compete for a state championship.

"2012 was a great year for the Warriors, and with the return of eight fulltime starters we are hoping for continued and greater success in 2013," said Thompson.

However, the Soccer Warriors must find a replacement for two key members of the championship squad who are continuing

championship in 2013

their careers on the next level.

Forward McGee Ledbetter of Columbus signed with NAIA National Champion Belhaven University Blazers, and keeper Jared Canoy of Biloxi is now a member of the Mississippi College Choctaws.

Ledbetter was selected Region 23 Player of the Year after leading the league in scoring with 14 goals, one assist and 29 total points. He also received team co-captain and Golden Boot awards. Ledbetter is a product of Heritage Academy in Columbus.

Canoy is a two-time MACJC All-State selection. He was also the recipient of team most valuable player and co-captain awards. Canoy is a product of West Harrison High School.

See ECCC on page B2

ECCC from page B1

Despite the loss of two former standouts, Thompson said the 2013 squad features "plenty of returning talent," including three players who received MACJC All-State honors – defender Jesse Vaughn and forward Russ Thompson, both products of Newton County High School; and forward Taylor Potter of Bentonia, a former standout at Mississippi School for Math and Science.

Potter and Thompson were the team's second and third leading scorers, respectively, from the 2012 campaign.

Thompson noted scoring should not be a [illegible] as four of the top five scorers return to action.

Defensively, Thompson said four of the top five defenders return to the lineup and include Vaughn, Jordan Walker of Newton County High School, Forest Mueller of Hahnville (La.) High School and Zack Killion of South Oldham (Ky.) High School.

Other key returnees include midfielders Will Thompson of Newton County, Kennon Craft of Clinton and Garrett Blevins of Harrison Central; forward Clint McGraw of Tupelo Christian; defenders Tyravian Miller of Moss Point and Ryan Artman of Grenada; and keeper Matt Taylor of Clarkdale.

newcomers should also attract attention this year. Players to watch include forward Jesus Onofre, a 2011 graduate of Forest High School, and midfielder Jordan Alonso of Newton County.

Another top newcomer is freshman forward Dalton Smith, who was the top scorer last year at Florence High School.

"We hope Dalton can help shoulder the scoring load this season," added Thompson.

Other freshmen and their respective high schools include keeper Matt Sykes, Heritage Academy; forwards Tim Nix of D'Iberville, Daniel Casaca of Forest and Joseph Gaskin of Maranatha Christian in [illegible]eenville; midfielders [illegible]nase McNair of Neshoba Central, Nick Breland of Stone County, Eliud Alvarez of Forest; and defenders Jerry Byrd of D'Iberville, Hector Ortiz of Enterprise and David Williams of Newton County.

Thompson said the talent-laden roster should provide a crowd-pleasing brand of soccer for the 2013 campaign.

"Fans will once again be treated to an exciting, attacking style of soccer," said Thompson. "The 2012 Warriors kept fans on the edge of their seats and 2013 should be more of the same. Maintaining possession with an attractive passing game along with a swarming defense will thrill fans!"

WEEK OF 8-25-13

ECCC men's soccer squad

Above are members of the East Central Community College men's soccer team, who begin 2013 competition as defending co-champions of the MACJC North Division. Squad members and their respective high schools include first row, from left, manager Ethan Gressett, Newton County; forwards/midfielders Will Thompson (2) and Russ Thompson (3) and defender Jesse Vaughn (4), all of Newton County; forward Taylor Potter (5), MS School for Math and Science; forwards Tim Nix (6) of D'Iberville and Jesus Onofre (7) of Forest; defenders Zack Killion (8) of South Oldham (Ky.) and Jordan Walker (9) of Newton County; midfielder Jordan Alfonso (10), Newton County; and manager Mason Boyer, Des Allemands, La.; second row, Kenneth Thompson, head coach; midfielders Chase McNair (11) of Neshoba Central and Kennon Craft (12) of Clinton; defender Tyravian Miller (13), Moss Point; forward Daniel Casaca (14), Forest; midfielders Nick Breland (15) of Stone and Eliud Alvarez (16) of Forest; defender Forest Muller (17), Hahnville (La.); midfielder Garrett Blevins (18), Harrison Central; and Gray Massey, assistant coach: and third row, manager Alana Walker, Pascagoula; forward Dalton Smith (19), Florence; defenders Jerry Byrd (20) of D'Iberville and Hector Ortiz (21) of Enterprise; keepers Matt Taylor of Clarkdale and Matt Sykes of Heritage Academy, Columbus; defender David Williams (22), Newton County; forward Clint McGraw (23), Tupelo Christian; defender Ryan Artman (24), Grenada; and manager Tyler Pigg, Newton County. The Soccer Warriors began season action Thursday, Aug. 22 at Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Game time is 6 p.m. on the Wesson campus. The first home match is set for Friday, Aug. 30 with Meridian Community College. Competition begins at 5 p.m. on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC women's soccer team

Ready to begin the 2013 campaign are the above members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team. Squad members and their respective high schools include first row, from left, midfielder Claire Milling (2), West Lauderdale; forward Baily McElroy (3) and defender Paige Gower (4), both of Clarkdale; forward Addie Ambrosier (6), Magee; forward/keeper Erika Joyner (8), West Lauderdale; forward Heather Johnson (9), Newton County; midfielder Sydney Dawkins (10), Clarkdale; and forward Kennedy McReynolds (11), Southeast Lauderdale; second row, forwards Tamia Cavett (12) of Murrah and Miranda Clark (13) of Neshoba Central; midfielders Madi Trapp (14) of Philadelphia, Morgan Luke (15) of Newton County and Ashlan Culberson (16) of Brandon; defender Tesia Keith (17), Corinth; midfielder Mackenzie Britt (18), Florence; defender Kennedy Castleberry (19), Clarkdale; and defender Jessie Hennington (20), Neshoba Central; and third row, Kenneth Thompson, assistant coach; managers Ethan Gressett and yler Pigg, both of Newton County; keeper Alana Turner, Florence; managers Alana Walker of Pascagoula and Mason Boyer of Des Allemands, La.; and Gray Massey, head coach. The Lady Soccer Warriors began season action Thursday, Aug. 22 at Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Game time is 4 p.m. on the Wesson campus. The first home match is set for Friday, Aug. 30 with Meridian Community College. Competition begins at 3 p.m. on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 8-25-3

EC soccer teams split with Co-Lin

MacKenzie Britt scored two goals and helped lead the East Central Community College women's soccer team to a 4-0 shutout of Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday, August 22 on the Wesson campus.

The season-opening victory also successfully began the Gray Massey era as Lady Warrior head coach.

Britt, a sophomore midfielder from Florence, scored her first goal with assistance from freshman defender Tesia Keith of Corinth. Britt tallied the second goal unassisted.

Also scoring for EC were freshman midfielder Madi Trapp of Philadelphia and sophomore forward Heather Johnson, a product of Newton County High School. Johnson and freshman forward Ericka Joyner of West Lauderdale were credited with scoring assists on Trapp's goal, and freshman midfielder Ashlan Culberson of Brandon received a scoring assist on Johnson's score.

In the men's contest, Blayne Jones scored for Co-Lin and was assisted by Johnny Walker.

Competition continues Saturday, August 24 for Kenneth Thompson's Warriors who battle Mississippi College's junior varsity squad at 4:15 p.m. on the Clinton campus.

Both EC teams travel to Southwest Mississippi Community College Tuesday, August 27. Game times are 3 and 5 p.m. on the Summit campus.

The home opener is set for Friday, August 30, when the Lady Warriors and Warriors host Meridian Community College at 3 and 5 p.m., respectively.

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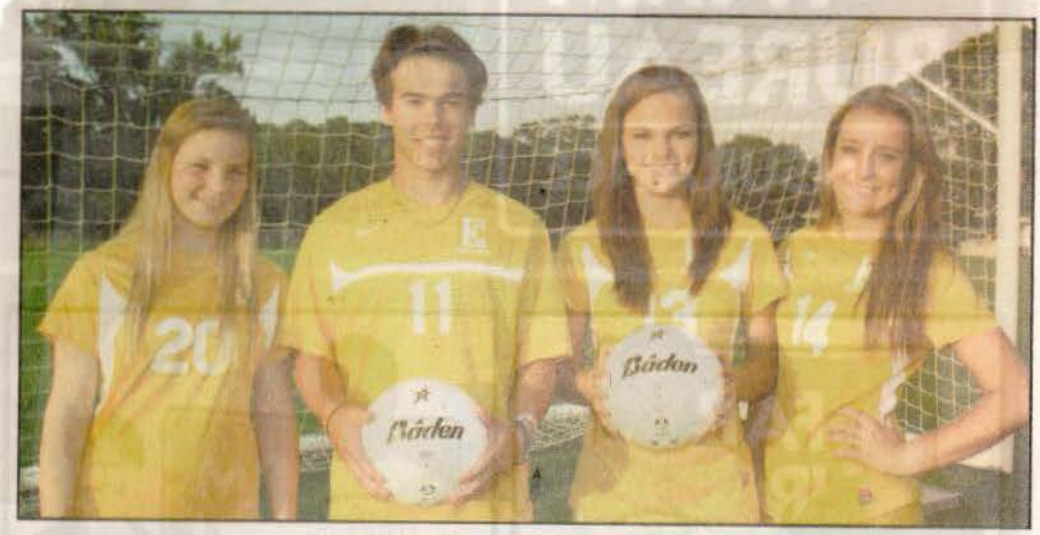
WEEK OF Sept. 29 2013



These graduates of Neshoba County schools are members of the 2013 East Central Community College soccer teams. From left are freshman defender Jessie Hennington (20), freshman midfielder Chase McNair (11) and sophomore midfielder Miranda Clark (13), all of Neshoba Central High School; and freshman midfielder Madi Trapp (14) a product of Philadelphia High School.

EC soccer teams defeat Southwest

East Central Community College's soccer teams each posted 2-1 decisions over Southwest Mississippi Community College squads Friday, Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus.

Ashlan Culberson scored both goals for the Lady Warriors, who improved to 4-6 overall under first-year head coach Gray Massey.

Culberson, a freshman midfielder from Brandon, gave EC an early 1-0 lead and later provided the game-winning goal in overtime.

Nicole Daigle scored for the Lady Bears and sent the contest into the extra period.

After trailing 1-0 following an early score by Southwest's Chris Gomez, the Warriors responded with goals from Clint McGraw followed by the game-winner from Will Thompson. Russ Thompson was credited with a scoring assist on McGraw's goal, and McGraw and Zack Killion received scoring assists on the Thompson score.

McGraw is a sophomore forward from Tupelo Christian and Will Thompson is a sophomore forward/midfielder and product of Newton County High School.

Russ Thompson is a sophomore midfielder/forward from Newton County, and Killion, a sophomore defender, hails from South Oldham High School in Crestwood, Ky.

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Sept. 29

WEEK OF [illegible], 2013

These Newton County High School products a members of the 2013 East Central Communit College soccer teams. Seated from left are sophomore forward/mi fielder Will Thompson (2), freshman midfielde Jordan Alonso (10), sophomore forward Heather Johnson (9), sophomore midfielder Morgan Luke (15) and sophomore midfielder/forward Rus Thompson (3). Standin from left are freshman defender David William (22), sophomore defend ers Jesse Vaughn and Jordan Walker (9), and managers Tyler Pigg a Ethan Gressett. Not pic tured is freshman forward Makenzie Rowze a recent addition to the roster.

ECCC soccer teams defeat Southwest

From school reports

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McGraw is a sophomore forward from Tupelo Christian and Will Thompson is a sophomore forward/midfielder and product of Newton County High School.

Russ Thompson is a sophomore midfielder/forward from Newton County, and Killion, a sophomore defender, hails from South Oldham High School in Crestwood, Ky.

The Warriors are led by head coach Kenneth Thompson.

EC soccer squads were set travel to Meridian Community College Tuesday.

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WEEK OF 11-27-2013

EC soccer teams fall to Pearl River

Season competition ended on a disappointing note for East Central Community College's soccer squads who were defeated by playoff-bound Pearl River Community College teams in non-division matchups held Friday, Oct. 25 in Decatur.

The Lady Warriors fell 5-0 to the Lady Wildcats and completed the 2013 campaign with a 6-10-1 record under first-year head coach Gray Massey. EC posted a 2-6 mark in the MACJC North Division.

Karly Mitchell of Poplarville High School scored twice for the Lady Wildcats, who improved to 12-2 overall and finished second in the MACJC South Division at 8-2.

Also scoring goals were Tori Ladd and Rachel Jacobson, both of Biloxi, and Kacy Mixon of East Central High School.

In the men's contest, the visitors snapped a 1-1 halftime tie with two goals in the second period and held on for a 3-1 decision.

Clint McGraw scored the lone goal for the Warriors who finished 8-8-1 overall and went 2-5-1 in league play. Will Thompson was credited with an assist.

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WEEK OF Nov. 3, 2015

ECCC Soccer All-Stars

Several soccer players representing East Central Community College in Decatur were selected to participate in the inaugural MACJC Men's and Women's All-Star Soccer Games scheduled Saturday, Nov. 16 at Freedom Ridge Park in Ridgeland. Selected on the men's All-Star squad are, kneeling, from left, forward/midfielder Will Thompson, midfielder/forward Russ Thompson and defender Jesse Vaughn, all products of Newton County High School in Decatur. Lady Warrior All-Stars are, standing, second from left, defenders Kennedy Castleberry and Paige Gower, both of Meridian and products of Clarkdale High School; and keeper Alana Turner of Mendenhall, a product of Florence High School. Also pictured are Warrior head coach Kenneth Thompson, left, selected to serve as an All-Star assistant, and Lady Warrior head coach Gray Massey who was named women's All-Star head coach. The women's matchup begins at 2 p.m. and the men's contest is set for 4:30 p.m. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Dec. 1, 2013

WTOK-TV "Your 24 Hour Newsource." (http://www.wtok.com)

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ECCC Announces Lady Warrior Soccer Signees

By: ECCC Media Relations
Posted: Tue 1:29 PM, Dec 03, 2013

Numerous high school soccer standouts recently signed national letters of intent to continue their careers at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Joining the Lady Soccer Warriors in 2014 and their respective high schools include Allie Turner, Horn Lake; Megan Yarbrough, Center Hill; Lacey Field, Lewisburg; Carrissa Stevenson and Christa Breazeale, both of Harrison Central; Kayla Anderson, Florence; Kaitlin Blue, South Jones; Mikalya May, Newton County; and Dru Elkins, South Jones.

Head coach Gray Massey said of the new team members, "The 2014 Class is a fantastic group of players. Each one brings her own personality and individual skill that will help take EC's soccer program to the next level."

Massey said he expects to sign additional players in the near future.

His 2013 squad achieved a school recording-tying six victories in his first year as head coach.

The signing ceremony was held Sunday, Dec. 1, 2013, in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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other ✓

WEEK OF Dec. 8, 2012

ECCC Lady Warrior Soccer signees

These high school soccer standouts recently signed national letters of intent to continue their careers at East Central Community College in Decatur. Signees and their respective high schools include, seated, from left, Allie Turner, Horn Lake; Megan Yarbrough, Center Hill; Lacey Field, Lewisburg; and Carrissa Stevenson, Harrison Central; and standing, Kayla Anderson, Florence; Kaitlin Blue, South Jones; Christa Breazeale, Harrison Central; Mikalya May, Newton County; and Dru Elkins, South Jones. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Dec. 15, 2013

EC soccer players judge NCES robotics competition

Members of the East Central Community College's soccer teams volunteered as judges for a Robotics competition held recently for fourth-grade students in TAG Class at Newton County Elementary School. In the above photo, fourth-grader Baleigh Boutwell demonstrates her Robotics project as (from left) Warrior head coach Kenneth Thompson, team members Zack Killion of Crestwood, Ky., and Clarkdale High School product Matt Taylor of Meridian evaluate her efforts. Other soccer team members who participated in the community service project include Will Thompson, Russ Thompson and Jordan Walker, all products of Newton County High School; Taylor Potter, MS School for Math and Science; Kennedy Castleberry, Clarkdale; and Alana Turner, Florence. Pam Keith and Chris Whittle serve as TAG Class instructors. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Dec. 22, 2013

ECCC Women's Soccer Award Winners

Various honors were received by the above members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. From left are Miranda Clark of Neshoba Central, hustle award; Paige Gower of Clarkdale, team captain, defense award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kennedy Castleberry of Clarkdale, academic award, Warrior Award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Florence High School product Alana Turner of Mendenhall, academic award, most valuable player, MACJC All-Star Game most valuable player, honorable mention MACJC All-State and recipient of the Halbrook Award, presented to the outstanding female and male student-athlete in the MACJC; and Ashlan Culberson of Brandon, honorable mention MACJC All-State and Golden Boot Award, presented to the team's top scorer. Culberson scored six goals and had one assist for a total 13 points. She was the sixth-leading scorer in the MACJC North Division and 18th overall. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Lady Soccer Warrior head coach Guy Maass, presented awards. (EC Photo)

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Other ✓

WEEK OF Dec. 22, 2013

ECCC Lady Soccer Warrior sophomores

These sophomores on the 2013 East Central Community College women's soccer team received special recognition at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Completing their careers as Lady Warriors are, seated, from left, Heather Johnson, Alana Turner, Claire Milling, Bailey McElroy and Paige Gower; and standing, Morgan Luke, Miranda Clark, Mackenzie Britt, Kennedy Castleberry and Sydney Dawkins. Gray Massey serves as head coach. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Dec 25 2013

ECCC Warrior soccer team honored

Members of the 2013 East Central Community College men's soccer team received various honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Honorees include (seated from left) Jesse Vaughn, a product of Newton County High School, defensive player award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Taylor Potter of Bentonia and product of the MS School for Math and Science, team captain award, Warrior Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kennon Craft of Clinton, hustle award; and Zack Killion, a product of South Oldham High School in Crestwood, Ky., honorable mention MACJC All-State; and (standing from left) Clint McGraw of Tupelo Christian Prep. and Matt Taylor of Clarkdale, honorable mention MACJC All-State; Jordan Walker of Newton County, academic award, defensive award and MACJC All-State; Russ Thompson, most valuable player, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State, and twin Will Thompson, All-Region 23, MACJC All-State, MACJC All-Star and Golden Boot Award, presented to the team's top scorer, both products of Newton County High School. Will Thompson scored six goals and had two assists for 14 points. He was the fourth leading scorer in the MACJC North Division and finished 16th overall. He also qualified as an NJCAA All-American nominee.

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WEEK OF February 3, 2013

LA softball standouts sign with ECCC

Leake Academy softball standouts Anna Katherine Nowell, seated, second from left, of Philadelphia and Hannah Peoples, seated third from left, of Carthage are shown signing national letters of intent to continue their careers at East Central Community College in Decatur. Nowell, a second baseman, has received numerous honors, including her selection as MAIS Offensive Player of the Year. She is also a three-time All-State selection and received All-District honors on three occasions. Nowell owns a .489 career batting average with 108 RBIs. She also has 58 stolen bases and has scored 99 runs. Peoples, a shortstop, is also a recipient of numerous honors, including MAIS All-Star and MAIS All-Star Game North Most Valuable Player. She is also a three-time All-State selection and four-time All-District recipient. She has a .445 career batting average with 82 RBIs. She also scored 88 runs and is credited with 44 stolen bases. The Lady Diamond Warrior signees helped lead Leake Academy to three MAIS State AA and North State titles and four District 2AA championships. Also pictured are (seated at left) ECCC assistant softball coach Courtney Nunn and head coach Kristin Chaney (seated at right). Standing from left are Anna Katherine's parents, Greg and Lisa Nowell of Philadelphia; Leake Academy softball coach Doug Jones; and Hannah's parents, Linda and Shelly Peoples of Carthage. The signing ceremony was held Jan. 16, 2013, in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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ECCC PHOTO

FOREST SOFTBALL STANDOUT JOINS ECCC SQUAD

Forest High School softball standout Ananezia Triplett (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Triplett plays shortstop for the Lady Bearcats and has received several honors, including best offensive player, best defensive player and most improved. She owns a .447 career batting average and has collected four home runs, four doubles and two triples. Also pictured are (seated from left) ECCC assistant softball coach Courtney Nunn and head coach Kristin Chaney; and (standing from left) the signee's family members - Lori Triplett (aunt), Juanita Jones (godmother) and Anita Triplett (mother). Ananezia is also the daughter of Chris Pitts. The special ceremony was held Jan. 16, 2013, in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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Chaney ready to lead East Central's softball program

After serving four years as an assistant for a championship program and following a playing career as an NJCAA All-American, Kristin Chaney is well-prepared to serve as head coach of East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team.

Chaney officially began her tenure Tuesday when the Lady Warriors hosted Baton Rouge (La.) Community College.

The Little Rock native said she has wanted a career in athletics since she was a young athlete, and being a head coach is a "dream come true."

"I am excited about being the head coach here at East Central," Chaney said. "It has always been a goal of mine to become a head coach and the challenge is now here.

"Athletics is something that has always been part of my life since I was born; whether I was at the ball field watching my brothers or playing myself. I guess it was in my blood; my dad was a coach and now both my brothers are coaches. I just love sports and watching sports."

Chaney takes over a program led since 2003 by Scott Hill who amassed an overall 308-123-1 record. Hill and Chaney took the program to new heights by capturing a first-ever Region 23 Tournament title in 2010 followed by a first MACJC State Championship in 2011.

She was also part of a winning program as a player, as she helped lead the 2004 and 2005 Lady Warrior softball squads to MACJC Central Division titles en route to overall records of 26-14 and 34-5, respectively. She also garnered NJCAA All-American, All-Region 23, and MACJC All-State and All-Division honors in the process.

Despite the success she achieved as a player and coach,

Although she stopped short of predicting a championship for the 2013 Lady Warriors, Chaney said she is "excited" about this year's squad, especially following a successful fall campaign.

"We went 5-0 in the fall but most importantly I saw us get better from game one to game five," said Chaney. "We started practice one working on fundamentals and I feel like when week six practice was over, we were not taking baby steps anymore…we were doing what we needed to do and getting our best reps in. Fall was a good evaluation helping me know who needs to be put in certain situations and the adjustments that we need to make during the game. Fall competition was not only for the team but it was for me also being a first-year head coach, as I got to learn some game management that I will use in the spring."

"This team has worked hard day in and day out," she said. "They have bought in to my philosophy and what I expect every day. I have told them we might not have the most talented team but nobody will out work us, and ultimately our hard work will catch up with the other team's talent. We have a lot of depth that we have not had in past years and the players know that the starting roles are wide open and that they have to bring their best every day to get that starting role or keep that starting role."

And what type team can fans expect this season?

"Our fans should expect a team that is scrappy and plays hard game in and game out," she said. "We will be very aggressive and take chances, but at the same time play the game the way it should be played. We will use 'small ball' when needed and use our speed to make things happen."

Sophomore team members and their respective high schools include pitchers Mary Sanders of Adams Christian Academy and Tenna Patterson of Lexington (Ala.); infielders LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central; and outfielders Marlee Massey and AJ Peeler, both of Neshoba Central

Freshmen players and their respective high schools include infielder/pitcher Amber McBroom, Brandon; infielders Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville, Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, Malauri Robinson of Enterprise, Ty Buckley of Neshoba Central and Hayley Stevens of Union; utility player Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya; and outfielders Casey Cherry of Union, Kristen Chipley of Leake Academy and Morgan Porter of Enterprise.

Student assistants include Jordan Clearman, Eden McGee and Katherine Upchurch, all of Neshoba Central, and Sam Evans of Union.

Serving her first year as assistant coach is Courtney Nunn, a former standout pitcher at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba and Mississippi College.

Nunn's responsibilities include working with pitchers and outfielders. She will also call pitches during the game and make in-game adjustments when needed.

Chaney said Nunn's experience and knowledge is a big asset to the Lady Warrior program.

"Coach Nunn's pitching knowledge has helped me tremendously," Chaney said. "When I was hired, I wanted to find someone to take over pitching and run with it. I feel like she has done a good job of communicating these young ladies and hel them understand me and wh takes to get to the next level. pleased to have her and know will do a great job and prepa our pitchers for opening day throughout the season."

Chaney said she is also ap ciative of the various impr ments made to the softball c plex.

For more information ECCC's fast-pitch softball gram, contact Coach Kr Chaney, 601-635-6301 or cal free, 877-462-3222, ext. 301.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL

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MERIDIAN STAR

WEEK OF February 3, 2013

ECCC Fast-Pitch Softball Team

Preparing for another successful season are the above members of the 2013 East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team. Lady Diamond Warriors and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) pitcher Mary Sanders (2), Adams County Christian School; infielder/pitcher Amber McBroom (3), Brandon; outfielder Casey Cherry (5), Union; infielders LaJoya Griffin (6) of Philadelphia, Kaylin Hopkins (7) of Louisville and Dakota Vowell (10) of Neshoba Central; outfielder Kristen Chipley (11), Leake Academy; utility player Laken Fulcher (13), Nanih Waiya; and outfielder Marlee Massey (15), Neshoba Central; (second row, from left) infielder Lindsey Beard (17), Clarkdale; outfielder Morgan Porter (19) and infielder Malauri Robinson (21), both of Enterprise; pitcher Tenna Patterson (22), Lexington (Ala.); infielders Ty Buckley (23) of Neshoba Central and Hayley Stephens (24) of Union; and outfielder AJ Peeler (27), Neshoba Central; and (third row, from left) Courtney Nunn, assistant coach; managers Sam Evans of Union and Jordan Clearman, Katherine Upchurch and Eden McGee, all of Neshoba Central; and Kristin Chaney, head coach. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF February 17, 2013

EC softball squad sweeps MCC

Led by a strong pitching performance in both contests and a productive offense in the nightcap, East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team recorded a pair of victories over rival Meridian Community College Thursday on the MCC campus.

Tenna Patterson shut down the MCC offense in a 2-0 win in the opener, and fellow sophomore hurler Mary Smith allowed just two runs and EC bats came alive for a 14-2 thumping in the second contest as the Lady Diamond Warriors even their record at 4-4 under first-year head coach Kristin Chaney.

EC got all the runs it needed in the fourth inning, on an RBI double from freshman Morgan Porter of Enterprise. Porter also singled to lead the offense.

Other hitters were LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia, double; and Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, and Ty Buckley and Dakota Vowell, both of Neshoba Central, singles each.

In the second contest, EC tallied eight runs in the first three innings and coasted to the easy win.

Those having productive outings at the plate were Vowell, triple, single and three RBIs; A.J. Peeler of Neshoba Central, double, single and RBI; Buckley, two singles; Marlee Massey of Neshoba Central, double and two RBIs; and Griffin and Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville, singles each. Beard was credited with two RBIs and Kristen Chipley of Leake Academy also knocked in a run.

Basketball

East Central Community College's Warriors rallied from a 55-45 second half deficit to force overtime then held on for an 85-78 MACJC South Division victory over Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

In the women's contest, division-leading Co-Lin escaped with an 80-70 win despite a 31-point scoring performance by EC's Xzandra Dowd. The score was tied at 36 at the break.

Baseball

After dropping their two Friday matchups in the annual Rush Invitational, East Central Community College's baseball squad rallied to win one of two contests in Sunday competition of the three-day event.

In games played Friday, the Diamond Warriors were defeated 10-3 in the tournament opener by Southeastern Iowa and were outscored 15-2 by Faulkner (Ala.) State in the nightcap.

Starter Caleb McKee took the loss to Faulkner State on the mound, as the southpaw from Neshoba Central allowed four earned runs on four hits through 4 1/3 innings. McKee fanned 10 batters and walked two.

EC's offense came alive against Lincoln Land Sunday afternoon, with Anderson again leading the offense. The sophomore shortstop doubled in the third inning and singled in the first, fifth and seventh innings. He also scored three runs and knocked in a run.

Tournament action concluded Sunday with EC's rally falling short in a 5-4 loss to Baton Rouge.

The Diamond Warriors, now 3-3 on the young season, host Shelton State (Ala.) Community College Wednesday. The first contest is a nine-inning battle and will be followed by a seven-inning matchup.

Home games are also scheduled Saturday, Feb. 23 with Lawson State (Ala.) Community College at 3 p.m. followed by a matchup with Kaskasia (Ill.) Community College at 6 p.m. Both are nine-inning contests.

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ECCC

Continued from page 9A

Soccer

East Central Community College's soccer program has announced fundraising efforts to upgrade fencing around the soccer pitch on the Decatur campus.

"We are going to replace the original fencing around the pitch with new vinyl-coated fencing

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WEEK OF February 24, 2013

Weather scrambles ECCC Warriors' softball slate

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball games scheduled Fridayat MS Delta have been rescheduled for Wednesday, March 6. Game times are 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on the Morehead campus.

ECCC will host Meridian Community College Wednesday, March 20 beginning at 3 p.m. Both games were late additions to the 2013 schedule.

ECCC improved to 6-4 on the young season following a doubleheader sweep of Marion Military Institute Wednesday, Feb. 20 in Marion, Ala.

Amber McBroom of Brandon knocked in the go-ahead run in the sixth inning and the Lady Diamond Warriors held on for a 9-4 win in the opener. EC jumped out to an early 3-0 lead and cruised 10-2 in the second contest, which was called after five innings due to the eight-run rule.

Also having productive outings at the plate were Morgan Porter of Enterprise, four singles and one RBI; Hayley Stephens of Union, double, two singles and three RBIs; Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, two singles and one RBI; LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Casey Cherry of Union, two singles each; Ty Buckley of Neshoba Central, single and RBI; and A. J. Peeler of Neshoba Central, single.

Runs were scored by Griffin (2), Porter (2), Buckley, Beard and Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central.

In the nightcap, Buckley blasted two doubles and Peeler and Porter each had a double and single to lead the offense. Peeler led in RBIs with three and Buckley knocked in two runs. Porter was also credited with an RBI.

Other hitters were McBroom, double and two RBIs; Beard, double and RBI; Stephens, double; Vowell, single and RBI; and Griffin and Marlee Massey of Neshoba Central, singles each.

Baseball

East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors fell 6-3 to Shelton State Community College held Feb. 20 in the Decatur campus.

Hitters included Zach May of Newton County, single and RBI; and Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise and Caleb McKee of Neshoba Central, singles each.

EC battles Pensacola Community College Tuesday, Feb. 26 in doubleheader action beginning at 2 p.m. on the Pensacola campus.

Basketball

A berth in the MACJC State Basketball Tournament will have to wait another year for East Central Community College's Lady Warriors who were outscored 81-62 Thursday night by the Jones County Junior College women for fourth-place honors in the MACJC South Division.

The Lady Bobcats held a 42-

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ECCC

Continued from page 10A

32 advantage at the break and outscored EC by a 39-30 margin in second half action of the regular season finale held on the Ellisville campus.

The playoff-deciding loss was especially tough for the Lady Warriors, who expected to win the season's rematch after posting an easy 97-67 win over Jones County in games played Jan. 28 on the Decatur campus.

Sophomore guards Xzandra Dowd and Jaianah Matthew each had 19 points to lead the Lady Warriors, who finished 8-15 overall and 5-7 in league competition under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

In the men's game, EC's rally fell short in a 79-66 loss to the Bobcats.

Freshman forward Walter Evans of Hattiesburg tallied 20 points to led the Warriors, who completed season action at 2-21 overall and 2-10 in the division under seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

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WEEK OF March 24, 2013

ECCC softball crushes MCC in DH

Mary Sanders picked up the win in the second game of East Central Community College's doubleheader sweep of Meridian Community College last week on the Decatur campus. Sanders, a sophomore from Vidalia, La., allowed five earned runs on six hits in the 13-5 victory.

From school reports

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad posted easy victories over Meridian Community College in a non-division doubleheader Wednesday, March 20, on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors cruised 11-2 in the opener and won 13-5 in the second contest to improve to 20-6 overall under first-year head coach Kristin Chaney and assistant Courtney Nunn.

A.J. Peeler led EC's offense in the first matchup, as the Neshoba Central High School product belted a home run, triple and two singles and collected four RBIs.

Also having productive outings at the plate were LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia, triple, single and two RBIs; Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, double, single and RBI; and Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central, two singles.

Morgan Porter of Enterprise contributed a two-run triple, Haley Stephens of Union and Kristen Chipley of Leake Academy each had a single and RBI; and Ty Buckley of Neshoba Central was credited with a single.

Runs were scored by Peeler (2), Griffin (2), Chipley (2), Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville (2), Buckley, Porter and Beard.

Tenna Patterson was the winning pitcher in the five-inning matchup. Patterson allowed two earned runs on six hits. She also fanned three batters and walked one. Patterson is a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School.

In the second game, EC jumped out to 12-0 lead after three innings and coasted to victory.

Stephens led the offense with two doubles and two RBIs.

Other hitters were Peeler and Hopkins, two singles each; Beard, double and two RBIs; Amber McBroom of Brandon, double and RBI; Chipley, single and RBI; and Buckley, Vowell, Porter and Casey Cherry of Union, singles each. Malauri Robinson of Enterprise was credited with a RBI.

Runs were scored by Griffin (2), Peeler (2), Buckley (2), Porter (2), McBroom, Stephens, Beard, Chipley and Hopkins.

Mary Sanders picked up the win in the six-inning contest. Sanders allowed five earned runs on six hits. She also fanned three batters and walked two. Sanders is a product of Adams County Christian School in Natchez.

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ECCC softball squad crushes Meridian CC

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad posted easy victories over Meridian Community College in a non-division doubleheader last Wednesday on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors cruised 11-2 in the opener and won 13-5 in the second contest to improve to 20-6 overall.

A.J. Peeler led EC's offense in the first matchup, as the Neshoba Central High School product belted a home run, triple and two singles and collected four RBIs.

Also having productive outings at the plate were LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia, triple, single and two RBIs; Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, double, single and RBI; and Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central, two singles. Haley Stephens of Union and Kristen Chipley of Leake Academy each had a single and RBI; and Ty Buckley of Neshoba Central was credited with a single.

Runs were scored by Peeler (2), Griffin (2), Chipley (2), Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville (2), Buckley, Porter and Beard.

In the second game, EC jumped out to 12-0 lead after three innings and coasted to victory. Stephens led the offense with two doubles and two RBIs.

Other hitters were Peeler and Hopkins, two singles each; Beard, double and two RBIs; Amber McBroom of Brandon, double and RBI; Chipley, single and RBI; and Buckley, Vowell, Porter and Casey Cherry of Union, singles each. Malauri Robinson of Enterprise was credited with a RBI.

EC was to travel to league opponent Jones County Junior College Tuesday.

Warriors looking for basketball coach

The search is under way for a new men's head basketball coach at East Central Community College.

Maurice Bowie, who has led the Warrior basketball program since the 2006-07 season, submitted his resignation March 19 at the March meeting of the College's Board of Trustees.

Bowie's teams compiled an

See **ECCC**, page 10A

Neshoba County members of the 2013 East Central Community College fast-pitch softb team are (seated from left) outfielders A. J. Peeler (27) and Marlee Massey (15) and infiel er Dakota Vowell, all products of Neshoba Central High School; and infielder LaJoya Grif (6) of Philadelphia High School; and (standing from left) infielder Ty Buckley (23) and ma agers Katherine Upchurch, Jordan Clearman and Eden McGee, all of Neshoba Central. T Lady Diamond Warriors are led by first-year head coach Kristin Chaney and assista Courtney Nunn. (EC Photo)

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overall 49-116 record during his seven-year tenure. Applications for the position will be received through April 12. For more information, contact Athletic Director Chris Harris, 601-635-6401 or 601-616-1088. His e-mail address is charris@eccc.edu.

All-star basketball

The state's top community and junior college basketball players will have an opportunity to showcase their talents when the annual MACJC All-Star Basketball Games are held Thursday at ECCC.

Women's action begins at 6 p.m. and the men's contest is set for 8 p.m.

Members of the South Division women's team include Vintrice Briggs, Chanta Poole and LaVasha Allen, all of Co-Lin; Jaianah Matthew, Xzandra Dowd and Jakela Johnson, all of East Central; Vandria Dampier, Hinds; Shamekia Hart, Markia Nix and Presley Owens, all of MS Gulf Coast; Daiquiri Raine, Pearl River; and Cassie Berry, Southwest.

Toby Bush of Pearl River serves as head coach.

North Division women All-Stars are Bridgett Griffin, Coahoma; Dajah McCarty, East MS; Jessica Miles, Holmes; Ty-Nita Baker, Jasmine Hampton, Ayanna Lynn and Ashley Wiley, all of Itawamba; Shanarika McCullum and Myiesha Stewart, both of MS Delta; Talisa Boyd and Katie Garvin, both of Northeast; and Monique Biggins, Northwest.

Brian Alexander of Northeast was selected head coach.

Selected on the South Division men's squad are Jay Case and Joe Cunningham, both of Copiah-Lincoln; Aquill Baynard, East Central; Dominique Brown and Marcus Hurn, both of Hinds; J.J. Bolton and Donta Pittman, both of Jones County; JaMichael Hawkins and Darius Forest, both of MS Gulf Coast; Frank Snow and Xavian Rimmer, both of Pearl River; and Donovan Ross, Southwest.

Richard Mathis of Pearl River serves as head coach.

North Division men All-Stars are Patrick Brown and Alex Thompson, both of Coahoma; Micah Walker, East MS; DeAndre Scott, Holmes; Quintin Lee and Tre' Wells, both of Itawamba; Anthony McDonald, MS Delta; Acie Vance and KeDorian Sullivan, both of Northeast; and DeMarcus McVay and Charles Eaton, both of Northwest.

David Robbins of Northeast will serve as head coach.

Baseball

East Central Community College's baseball team split decisions with Itawamba Community College in a non-division doubleheader.

The Diamond Warriors held on for an 8-7 victory in the opener and fell 11-6 in the nightcap.

Ryan Shotts of Louisville and Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin led EC's offense in the opener. Shotts belted a triple and collected two RBIs. Franklin contributed a double and also knocked in two runs.

Other hitters were Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central, double; and Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.), Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.), Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.), Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise and John Morgan Berry of Madison Central, singles each. May was also credited with an RBI.

Blake Dubuisson picked up the win in relief. The right-hander allowed one earned run on four hits through 2 2/3 innings. He also walked a batter.

In the second contest, Anderson led the offense with a double and single.

The Diamond Warriors, now 12-13 overall, host MS Gulf Coast Community College Friday. The twin bill gets under way at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

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WEEK OF March 31, 2013

Lady Warriors swept by JCJC during Ellisville campus games

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad dropped a twin bill to Jones County Junior College March 26 on the Ellisville campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors fell 7-4 in the opener and were blanked 8-0 in the nightcap of the key MACJC South Division matchup.

Following the setbacks, EC dropped to 20-8 overall and 4-4 in league play.

Amber McBroom belted a two-run homer and Hayley Stephens of Union contributed a two-run double to lead EC's offense in the opener.

Other hitters were A.J. Peeler of Neshoba Central and Morgan Porter of Enterprise, singles each.

In the second contest, EC managed just one hit – a double by Porter.

EC hosts division opponent Pearl River Community College Wednesday.

(363-349).

Newton County High School product Lee McDill led EC with rounds of 84 and 77 for a 161 total.

Other team members and their respective scores include Sawyer Williams, a product of Porters Chapel HS in Eldorado, Ark., 173 (89-84); Shelby Patterson of Forest, 175 (91-84); Evan Dowell of Carthage, 180 (88-92); and Aaron Tucker of Leake Central, 183 (96-87).

Baseball

Tim Anderson's walk-off three-run triple provided East Central Community College with a stunning 5-3 victory over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in the nightcap of their division battle played Friday at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur.

The Diamond Warriors, who fell 8-3 in the opener, are currently second in the MACJC South Division at 7-3. Jones County leads the division at 9-3.Gulf Coast is fifth at 4-6.

The Diamond Warriors, 15-14 overall, were to take on Hinds Community College Tuesday.

The Eagles are 11-17 overall and 2-8 in league play.

EC travels to Pearl River Community College Saturday.

The division twin bill gets under way at 1 p.m. on the Poplarville campus.

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

Lady Warriors take twin bill win

East Central Community College's fastpitch softball team earned a pair of division contests by sweeping a doubleheader from Copiah-Lincoln Community College Saturday.

The Lady Diamond Warriors posted a 4-2 victory in the opener and held for a 2-1 decision in the second contest to improve to 23-9 overall and 7-5 in the MACJC South Division. Co-Lin dropped to 19-13-1 and 4-10.

Dakota Vowell led the offense in the opener, as the Neshoba Central High School product slapped a single in the fourth inning and doubled in the sixth.

Morgan Porter of Enterprise was the top run producer with a two-run triple.

Other hitters were LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, single and RBI each; Marlee Massey of Neshoba Central, triple; Amber McBroom of Brandon, double; and A.J. Peeler and Ty Buckley, both of Neshoba Central, singles each.

In the second contest, Buckley's two-run homer in the sixth inning provided EC with the winning margin.

Other hitters were Massey, double; and Peeler, McBroom, Porter and Beard, singles each. Beard also scored.

The Lady Diamond Warriors host Pearl River Community College Thursday, April 11. Game times for both doubleheaders are scheduled at 2 and 4 p.m.

Golf

Scholarships for East Central Community College students will again be the top prize winner when the annual Warrior Golf Classic is held this summer at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw.

Photo by Steve Swogetinsky

Neshoba Central graduate Marlee Massey makes contact with a bunt for the East Central Lady Warriors during a recent game. ECCC is battling for a place in the state playoffs.

This year's four-person scramble is scheduled for Thursday, June 27 on the Azaleas Golf Course. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and will be followed by a shot gun start at 10 a.m.

"The Warrior Golf Classic provides much-needed and appreciated scholarships for East Central students," said tournament coordinator Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth who serves as executive director for foundation and alumni relations.

Entry fee is $125 per person, which includes green fee, golf cart and lunch, which will be served buffet-style beginning at approximately 2:30 p.m., prior to the awards ceremony.

Corporate sponsorships are also available at the following levels: Gold, $650 (includes fees for a four-person team and a hole sponsorship); Silver, $400 (includes fees for two players and a hole sponsorship); and Bronze, $200 (includes a hole sponsorship).

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

Baseball

After claiming a 6-2 win in the opener with Pearl River Community College, East Central Community College's baseball team was unable to complete a doubleheader sweep of the Wildcats and fell 12-11 in the MACJC South Division matchup held Saturday, April 6 on the Poplarville campus.

However, the Diamond Warriors remain tied for the division lead with Jones County Junior College as both squads sported 10-4 records going into their battle Tuesday.

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and 9-0 earlier in the season in Ellisville.

In the first contest with Pearl River, Ryan Shotts of Louisville and Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin collected two hits and two RBIs each to lead the EC offense. Shots belted a double and single and Franklin contributed two singles. Each also scored a run.

Other hitters were Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central and John Morgan Berry of Madison Central, singles each.

In the second contest, EC overcame an early 7-0 deficit and grabbed a 10-7 advantage in the top of the sixth only to have the Wildcats respond with five runs in the bottom of the frame. The Diamond Warriors could muster just one run in the top of the seventh and Pearl River (26-10, 9-5) held on for the victory.

Starter Blake Dubuisson was one of six hurlers on the mound for EC in the nightcap. The right-hander went 1 1/3 innings and allowed four earned runs on five hits. He also walked a batter. Dubuisson is a product of Long Beach High School.

Basketball

Tryouts for the 2013-14 East Central Community College men's basketball team will be held Tuesday, April 16, 2013, on the Decatur campus.

Activities will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. For more information, contact head coach Maurice Bowie, 601-635-6372 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 372. His e-mail address is mbowie@eccc.edu.Tryouts for the 2013-14 East Central Community College women's basketball team will be held Wednesday, April 17 on the Decatur campus. Activities are scheduled from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Participants should provide their own workout gear.

For more information, contact Lady Warrior head coach Crandal Porter, 601-636-6243 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 243. His e-mail address is cporter@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 7, 2013

Softball: East Central's Jordyn Scarbrough signs with East Central CC

Print (http://blog.gulflive.com/mississippi-press-sports//print.html?entry=/2013/04/softball_east_centrals_jordyn.html)

(http://connect.gulflive.com/user/cregs/index.html) By Creg Stephenson | GulfLive.com (http://connect.gulflive.com/user/cregs/posts.html)
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on April 11, 2013 at 7:21 AM, updated April 11, 2013 at 7:23 AM

East Central High School pitcher Jordyn Scarbrough signed Wednesday with East Central Community College. (Joshua Dahl/GulfLive.com correspondent)

The colors of the uniform will be changing for Jordyn Scarbrough, but not the name of the school she will be attending.

The East Central High School softball pitcher signed Wednesday to play at East Central Community College, located in Decatur. She'll trade in the maroon and white of the Hornets for the black and gold of the Warriors beginning next season.

"She's been a great pitcher and a great kid and fought through a lot of injuries, and I'm really proud she's getting to move on and play at the next level," East Central coach Kyle Long said. "That's the goal for our program."

Scarbrough has been the Hornets' No. 1 pitcher since midway through her freshman season, including when she helped East Central reach the 5A South State finals last year. East Central is 16-5 this season, leading the Division 7-5A standings with two league games remaining.

Scarbrough has missed extensive time with a back injury this season, but is 5-0 with a 0.94 ERA and just 16 hits allowed in 29.2 innings. She pitched a no-hitter in the Hornets' 4-0 division win over Pascagoula on March 23.

Scarbrough and East Central return to action at home Saturday for a doubleheader with Vancleave, then travel to Pascagoula for a division game on Monday.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
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WEEK OF April 14, 2013

East Central one game out of first place

The Warriors of East Central Community College split their four division games last week and find themselves one game out of first place with a 12-6 MACJC South Division record.

Pearl River and Jones are tied for first at 13-5 each, while Gulf Coast is a distant fourth at 7-9. All four of those teams have already won 20 games overall this season, with ECCC at 20-17 going into the week.

The next division games for East Central will come on Saturday when they play host to Copiah-Lincoln Community College in a 2 p.m twin bill. The following week ECCC is at Gulf Coast on April 23 and plays host to Hinds on April 27. Those last three division foes are a combined 17-33 in South Division play at this point.

Last week the Warriors spilt a pair of games with Jones on Wednesday, winning the first game 6-2, before dropping the second one 20-3. On Saturday the Warriors lost the first game to Southwest Mississippi Community College 3-2, before bouncing back to beat the Bears 14-2.

The Warriors do play on Wednesday, traveling to Fulton to take on Itawamba Community College in a non-division doubleheader at 3 p.m.

— Austin Bishop

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WEEK OF April 28, 2013

ECCC softball squad prepares for MACJC State Softball Tournament

East Central Community College's playoff-bound softball squad split a doubleheader with Pearl River Community College in the regular season finale held Saturday.

The Lady Diamond Warriors fell 6-1 in the opener but rallied for a 5-1 decision in the second contest to complete the regular season at 30-14 overall and 14-10 in the MACJC South Division.

Next up for East Central is the MACJC State Softball Tournament, scheduled to start Thursday and hosted by South Division champion Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston. EC, the South No. 3 seed, will battle North No. 2 seed (TBA) at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 2 in first-round action of the single elimination event. Semifinals are set for noon and 2 p.m. followed by the championship game at 5 p.m. Friday, May 3.

In the first game with Pearl River, Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale led the EC offense with an RBI single. Singles each were contributed by Ty Buckley, Dakota Vowell and Marlee Massey, all of Neshoba Central; Amber McBroom of Brandon; Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville; and Casey Cherry of Union. Haley Stephens scored EC's lone run.

In the second game, EC's offense came alive with McBroom leading the attack with two singles and four RBIs.

Also having productive outings at the plate were LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Buckley, double and single each; Vowell and Beard, two singles each; AJ Peeler of Neshoba Central, RBI double; and Massey and Morgan Porter of Enterprise, singles each.

Tryouts for the 2013-14 East Central Community College fastpitch softball team will be held Tuesday, May 21. Activities begin at 2 p.m. on the Lady Warrior softball field on the Decatur campus.

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Mississippi's Best Community Newspaper

NatchezDemocrat.com

Submitted photo / East Central Community College — East Central Community College pitcher Mary Sanders readies during a practice session. Sanders, an Adams County Christian School alumna, recently completed her sophomore season with East Central.

Ex-ACCS pitcher ends East Central career that started with a phone call

Published 12:09am Monday, May 27, 2013

By Reina Kempt

The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — As a senior on Adams County Christian's softball team in 2011, Mary Sanders said she desperately wanted to play softball on the next level.

With a little determination and practice, she tried out for several teams across Mississippi before receiving the phone call that would change her life.

Sanders said her phone went off in class one day as an unknown number appeared on the screen. She didn't know what to do to not disrupt class, so she tried to save face by asking her teacher to answer the mysterious call.

Her teacher agreed and told Sanders that the call was from a softball coach at East Central

Community College in Decatur. Filled with excitement, Sanders asked to be excused from class as she rushed outside of the room to hear the voice of former head coach Scott Hill.

"It was amazing. I was just sitting in class, and when my teacher said it was a college coach on the phone, I ran out of the room," Sanders said. "I was so excited."

Sanders said she thought she was prepared for the next level, with receiving All-District three times, All-Metro once and best defensive player twice at ACCS, but upon her arrival to ECCC, she realized she was sadly mistaken.

"In high school some are better than others, but in college, everybody is good," she said.

Transitioning to college was a bit of a culture shock for Sanders.

"We lifted weights all of the time, and we ran a lot more than in high school," she said. "I wasn't used to that."

But Sanders didn't get down on herself. Sanders said she worked even harder and trained heavily with a pitching coach to strength her skills.

This past season, first-year head coach Kristin Chaney fell in love with Sanders' ability to effectively use the changeup pitch and it showed throughout the season.

"Coach thought my changeup was amazing, so she wanted to use it more," she said. "She said it kept our opponents unbalanced."

Just finishing up her sophomore year as the second-game pitcher, Sanders earned the most outstanding pitcher award.

In the 2013 season, Sanders pitched a total of 101.1 innings, had 31 strikeouts and no errors.

She helped lead the team to a record of 31-17 before losing to Jones County Junior College 10-4 at the Region 23 Tournament, a double-elimination event, on May 10. They suffered a 6-1 loss to LSU-Eunice just the day before.

Now that the season is over for Sanders and the Lady Diamond Warriors, so is Sanders' community college career.

She graduated from ECCC with an associate's degree in arts, and she said she hopes to continue her education at Mississippi State, as just a student.

"I'm going to State in the fall but not to play ball," Sanders said. "Well, there's a chance I might play (eventually) but I'm not sure."

Sanders will pursue a degree at MSU in the fall.

Natchez Democrat

WEEK OF ~~May~~ June 5, 2013

EC softball players receive honors

From school reports

Several members of the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team received honors following the squad's successful season.

At the top of the list is first baseman Ty Buckley of Philadelphia, who received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors and is an NJCAA All-American nominee in recognition of her outstanding freshman season.

The Neshoba Central High School product led the Lady Diamond Warriors with a .397 batting average, six home runs and 36 RBIs. She was credited with seven triples and 12 doubles. Buckley was also selected EC's most valuable player.

Also receiving MACJC All-State recognition is pitcher Tenna Patterson, who completed her sophomore season with a 16-12 record and posted a 2.22 earned run average. Patterson recorded 103 strikeouts during the 2013 campaign. She is a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School.

Other players who received team honors include outfielder AJ Peeler, most valuable offensive player, and catcher Dakota Vowell, most valuable defensive player and most improved player, both products of Neshoba Central High School; infielder Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville, base running award; Mary Sanders of Vidalia, La., most valuable pitcher; and LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia, Lady Warrior Award. Hopkins is the only returnee in the group.

Peeler batted .349 with 32 RBIs. She belted three home runs, three triples and seven doubles.

Vowell posted a .383 batting average and had 17 RBIs, one home run, a triple and five doubles.

Hopkins saw limited action at the plate but made the most of her eight appearances by collecting six hits for a .750 batting average.

Sanders went 14-5 on the mound and posted a 2.92 earned run average. The Adams County Christian product also fanned 35 players.

The Lady Diamond Warriors finished third in the MACJC South Division with a 14-10 record and advanced to the MACJC State and Region 23 tournaments en route to a 31-17 record under first-year head coach Kristin Chaney and assistant Courtney Nunn.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Aug. 11 2013

Lady Warriors open season Saturday

By Austin Bishop
The Winston County Journal

The Nanih Waiya slow-pitch softball team will be an experienced squad when they begin the 2013 season on Saturday.

"I have a lot of returning players," said first-year head coach Courtney Graham. "We lost four seniors but the majority of our varsity and junior high team are coming back."

Graham served as assistant coach last season for the slow-pitch team that advanced deep into the playoffs. The fast-pitch team won the MHSAA Class 1A State title, which Graham said could be a benefit for this year's slow-pitch team.

"I think the girls are more confident because of that win last year, but the expectations are probably a little higher as well," Graham said. "It adds a little pressure. Most people think softball is softball, but slow-pitch is a different sport and takes a total different mental approach to the game."

Graham has high hopes for the team's defense this season. "We have a consistent group of girls, and they stop the ball almost all of the time," she said. "They back each other up, know where they are supposed to be and are constantly moving."

Brantlie Sheets will be playing first base for the Lady Warriors, while Katylyn Burrage is at second

against familiar foes

and Ryan Holdiness and Mackenzie Johnson will be switching back and forth between shortstop and third.

Allayna Lovorn will handle the catching, while Candace Thornton, Lori Beth Hailey and Hope Thames will all see time pitching. The outfield is made up of Marlee Parkes, Regan Holdiness, Livia Bush and Chelsea Smith.

Nanih Waiya will travel to Louisville on Saturday to take on the Lady Wildcats at 10 a.m. and Noxapater at 11:30 a.m.

The Lady Warriors then visit Kosciusko on Monday and East Webster on Thursday, Aug. 22.

The first home game for Nanih Waiya is set for Tuesday, Sept. 3 at 6 p.m. against Eupora.

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Runner ups

ECCC Intramural Softball Championship Runners-Up

"The Outlaws" finished second in the intramural softball competition held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Blake Bateaste, Biloxi; Anthony Triplett, Philadelphia; Marko Franks, State Line; Anthony Ruffin, Kemper; Wesley Smith, Morton and Donnie Farmer, Saucier; and (standing from left) Christian Wraggs, Louisville; Desmond Grayson, Meridian; Brandon Davis, Decatur; Tyler Pace, Newton; Andy Morris, Liberty; and Derrick Farrow, Cochran, Ga. (EC Photo)

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Orientation/
Enrollment

WEEK OF January 4, 2013

ECCC photo

Walker registers for spring classes at ECCC

Scott Walker (left) of Philadelphia is shown registering for spring classes at East Central Community College during Orientation activities held Friday, Jan. 4 on the Decatur campus. A nontraditional student, Walker is a 2006 graduate of Philadelphia High School and is enrolling in classes in the Computer Network Support Technology Program. He is shown receiving assistance with his class schedule from instructor Kelly Cluff. Spring classes begin Monday, Jan. 7. The last day to register is Friday, Jan. 11. For more information contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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ECCC Announces Fall Semester Honor Roll

January 6, 2013

Students named to the 2012 fall semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to David Case, Dean of Admissions, Records and Research.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

AMADORA: Silvia Cristina Viana Carvalho;

FOREST: Adriana Esguerra, Megan Olivia Everett, Jessica Annette King, Shaki Shalone McLaurin and Jason Hunter Stroud;

HICKORY: Haley Marie Chapman, Blake Austin Cochran, Melissa Joanne Manues and Aaron Blake Rose;

LAKE: Gary Dewayne Cooksey, Tiffany C. Gardner, Lashonda Raquel Johnston, Shelby Lea Parkman, Meagan Nicole Reid and Leslie N. Tucker;

LENA: Haley Eliza Johnson, Meghan Alaina Johnson, Shelby Lynne Johnston, Amanda Diane Lott and Dustin Cody Watkins;

MORTON: Melissa K. Bailey, Anna Elizabeth Boyd and Emily Elizabeth Marler;

NEWTON: Trevor Wayne Ayllon, Kelsey Lea Bounds, Seth Madison Cash, Christiana Renee Dawn Collins, Rayanne K. Craven, Leah Alison Humphreys, Rachristopher L. Jones, Timothy O'Neal Johnson, Otarius De'Otis Lloyd, Maria Isabel Martinez, Samantha Kaye McDaniel, Demetrice Lashae Moore, Shelby McMillan Patterson, Brady Franklin Power, Kimberly Rae Rigby, Laquita Nicole Rogers, Justin Wayne Rushing, Peggy Sims and Aimee Adrienne Stiles;

LAKE: Jessie Robert Barrett, Casey Shea Bryant, Allison Paige Colbert, Clarence Edward Creel, Marquel C. Evans, Spear Gilmer, Pheanice Hamm-Brown, Devyn Ely Harrison, Emmarald Moneish Kiera Jones, Brianna Lyndsay Parkman and Andrea Christan Taflinger;

MENDENHALL: Alana Joy Turner;

MORTON: Kara B. Johnson, Hannah Lea McCurdy, Holli Virginia Nutt, Justin Devon Runnels and Betty J. Tucker;

NEWTON: Judson Gary Bounds, Deeanna Marie Carlson, Mikayla H. Carson, Jennifer Janette Collins, Ryan Daniel Godwin, Sara Delaney Kilgore, Morgan Elizabeth Luke, Karri Elizabeth Maran Miller, Cassidy Maree Tasker, Robin Michelle Towner, Christopher Austin Tramill, Javossiya Lequeka Walker, Chris Lee Wansley, Sophia Deloris Wheaton and Jessica Leighanne Wright;

SEBASTOPOL: Aderian Kendal Partain;

WALNUT GROVE: Kelli F. Alford, Krystan Leah Bolton, Cynthia Denise Carter, Jeremy Scott Denson, Sandra Diane Diehl, Amber C. Jones, Candace Mae Marchant, Kristen Renee Smith and William Turner Stevens and [illegible] son, William Leo Milner, Lacie Nicole Sessums and Elizabeth Brooke Wilson;

MENDENHALL: Hunter Stevens Brooks;

MORTON: Makenzie Layne Adcoc, Alicia Brook Boykin, Jeffery Woodard Boykin, Aaron Dustin Dipuma, Chauncy Lee Griffin, Kelsey Elizabeth Hall, Samuel David Irby, Percy T. Lewis, Allyson Courtnie Nichols, Justin Ray Nutt, Christin Renee Polk, Zabulius Markey Reese, Leah Alexis Rigney, Meghan Schmidt, Jessica Nicole Stinson, Alice Jewel Towner and Pepper Lee Weed-Cooper;

NEWTON: Jose Juan Allende, Lucas Daniel Aycox, Miranda Nicole Bender, Bobby Curry Billups, Vivian A. Braxton, Sidney Jamez Broach, Dama J. Cates-Kilgore, Robin Renee Coker, Lisa Maria Collins, Lillian Ann Curry, Will Landon Gibson, Pamela ReGina Glenn, Dakota Lynne Griffin, Jackie M. Humphreys, Maree Antronette Kidd, Areaun M. Leverette, Devin Noel Little, Aristotle Sanchez Love, Zachery Eli Mason, Marquita McLaurin, Eunice Raynita McLaurin, Robert Maurice Payne, Alma Olivia Pickens, Amanda Kaye Pientowski, Magen Pearl Pierce, Kadeshia Dominique Pugh, Wesley Devon Robinson, Charles Lance Roebuck, Ashley Elizabeth Roebuck, Monica Lynn Russell, Danielle Nicole Shelley, Jasmaine Gentia Skinner, Jamey Stuart Tune, Robert Clint Walker, Kiyanna Monique White and Deborah Jones Williams;

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PELAHATCHIE: Clinton Wade Baker, Aaron Bradley Cooper and Justin Van Laster;
PULASKI: Joseph Tell Matuszewski;
WALNUT GROVE: Wanda Diana Harrison and Amber Lyn Pierce.

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:
FOREST: Tony Ladell Alford, Eliud Alvarez, Jessica Kay Barnett, Jessica Rolanda Brown, Lavell Brown, Lorraina Marcila Burkes, Daniel Hernandez Chim, Emilee Anna Cox, Kelsey Beth Cox, Shawn Matthew Evans, Zachary Gardner, Sharley Renea Hardin, Luis Felipe Hernandez, Rosalia Hernandez-Chim, Brittany N. Hutchinson, Angela Loretta Irby, Todd

HONORABLE MENTION

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:
FOREST: Christopher Dwane Allen, Crystal Denise Anderson, Shyanna Kordae Bell, Ruby Doris Bolden, Brandi Joyce Bounds, Kristy Roshelia Bounds, Ornisha Mozell Brown, Chelsea Cleanise Campbell, Betty Jean Cox, Lee Anna Crimm, Erica Hailey Ervin, Andrew Michael Evans, Lucretia Tatum Gaddis, Christy M'Lee Gibbs, Lydia Catherine Henderson, Tanihhija Hughes, Kerry Keith Ingle, Carolyn Marie Keeton, Ian Chandler Lanthrip, Ryan Dion McClendon, Syneisha Eulorian McCurdy, Edna Ruth McDonald, Erik Daniel Moya, Larreessa Debrelle Pace, Mae Doris Patrick, Danielle Brooke Pettigrew, Dustin Cane Phillips, Thomas Zane Phipps, Brittany Santana Pinter, Matthew Scott Risher, Luis Felipe Rosas, Kirstie G. Shaw, Eryn Payton Smith, Connor Maxwell Steptoe, Taneisha Phonik White and Ernest Clayton Williamson;
HARPERVILLE: Marticeka Chatice Kincaid;
HICKORY: Shelby Nicole Bishop, Obrian Santell Broach, Chayvontae Symone Chapman, Demetra Denese Dawkins, Tadarin Deshun Foster, Julien Laurent Gillis, Alexandria Marie Hollingsworth, Aaron Olen Lawson and Alexandria Renee Meador;
LENA: Archie Jean John-

PULASKI: Myrna Susan Parkman, Kelsi Diane Walters and Ivory Summer Weldon;
SEBASTOPOL: Brittany Nicole Savell;
WALNUT GROVE: Felicia Nicole Clark, Ashland Brooke Ellington, Derron A. Gates, Yasmin Ti'Anna Gill, Jackie Ann Hogue, Mary Kathryn Loper, Sabrina Janae Posey, Emily Frances Price, Dana Marie Spivey, Megan Elizabeth Thaggard, Erin Leigh Thornton and Cassandra Gail Willis;

WEEK OF January 16-22

ECCC PHOTO

Reid receives recognition

Meagan Reid of Lake was among several students who received special recognition as graduates of East Central Community College's Surgical Technology program.Graduates were honored at the annual pinning ceremony held Dec. 13, 2012.

East Central Community College student Kristy Bounds of Forest, a product of Scott Central High School hopes to soon begin her career in the health-related field having recently completed the College's Practical Nursing Program. She received special recogni-

ECCC PHOTO

The East Central Community College Gospel Choir held its annual fall concert in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. The Rev. Larry Reed was the guest speaker for the event. He instructed those attending to "leave a mark" wherever they may go in life. The Rev. Reed is the pastor of Midway Baptist Church in Decatur. He is a graduate of Forest High School and Alcorn State University.

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OF January 18, 2012

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ECCC Gospel Choir presents concert

The East Central Community College Gospel Choir is shown prior to the group's annual concert held Nov. 28 in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Membe and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Vandaju Talley of Philadelphia, treasurer and section leader; Camera Hopkins of Louisville, Jermaine Russell and Denz Clemons, both of Philadelphia; Jeremiah Chapman of Newton, Shavonda Stingley of Forest, Aries Agee of Morton, section leader; Andrea McSwain of Decatur, president and secti leader; Tiara Stewart of Philadelphia, and Brenda K. Johnson, director; (second row, from left) Keith Phillips of Carthage, student director; Sabrina Shelwood of Collins, Toneshia Ruf of Decatur, Ben Brooks of Meridian, Terrance Dentry, Jr. of Columbus, Charles Taylor of Neshoba, Lashundra Rush of Philadelphia, Keyndra Jones and Beunca Patrick, both of Fores and Raenica Bryant of Meridian, secretary; (third row, from left) Sharde Mays of Morton, Brittany Clark of Carthage, Avery Ward of Morton, Thomas Robertson of Forest, Terrance Walk of Newton, assistant student director; Shakerra McGilberry of Laurel, Cahnesiya Donald of Forest, Diamond Wesley of Chicago, Evone McDonald of Montrose, and Brittany Foster Ludlow, section leader. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF January 6-7 2003

ECCC PHOTO

The East Central Community College Concert Choir is shown prior to the group's annual fall concert. Members and their respective hometowns include accompanist *Natalie Emmons (seated at piano), Lake*; (first row, from left) Sandy Alexander; MaryAnna Jefcoat; *Abigail Buitrago, Morton*; *Kimberly Rigby, Forest*; *Shawn Windham, Lena*; Jesse Vaughn; Turner Stevens; Colton Hurst; *Jessica Barnett, Forest*; Jayohnnie Slaughter; Kaitlin Beard; Robin Coker; and director Vicki Blaylock; (second row, from left) Georgia Doner; Courtney Mackey; Mallory Wilkerson; Heather Bradley; Mark Ellis; *Jacob King, Sebastopol*; Rob Parker; Chandler Smith; Keith Phillips; Terrance Walker; Lashundra Rush; and Rachel Boulton; (third row, from left) Samantha Hill; Brittany Bobo; *Gloiana Latham, Morton*; Caitlyn Sant; Jon' Marie Baucum; Ryan Godwin and Timothy Laird; Matt Graham; Clint Walker; Leslie Young; Tiffany Dorman; *Kasey Logan, Lake*; and Kara Miller and Andrewa McSwain; (fourth row, from left) *Jessica Stinson, Morton*; Savannah Vance; Ashley Bozeman; Stephanie Spence and Joseph Aulds; Corey Jackson; Johnny Kight; Jessie Armstrong; Sarah LaBue; Claire Griffin; *Hannah Kersgaard, Sebastopol*; and Adriana Alderson; and (back row, from left) Macy Etta Seale; Taylor Gressett; Alex Weir; Emily Jacome-Cluff; Sam Lovorn; Jeremy Carson; Nathan Williams; Bo Foster; Hunter, Brooks; *Justin McNeal, Morton*; *Jose Pereira, Morton*; Melissa Manues; *Danielle Shelley, Sebastopol*; *Jade Castillo, Morton*; and Tiffany Benson.

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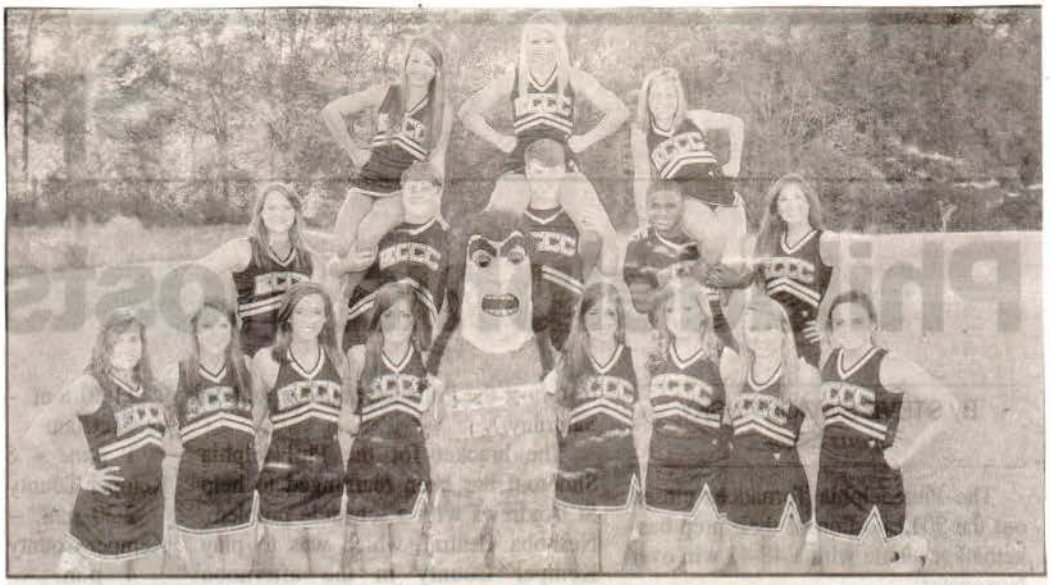
WEEK OF January 6, 2013



Warrior Cheerleaders 2012-13

East Central Community College Warrior Cheerleaders for 2012-13 are (front row, from left) Jordyn Landry and Madison Stringer, both of Decatur; Payton Smith of Forest, Lindsey Ezelle of Decatur, Rachel Boulton of Hickory, mascot; Lauren Ezelle of Decatur, Hanna Kemp of Carthage, Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, and Alex Hollingsworth of Hickory; (second row, from left) Madison Herrington of Union, Maxey Parker of Noxapater, Darrin Hillman of Sebastopol, David Williams of Decatur and Hannah Smith of Carthage; and (top row, from left) Lindsey McCool of Louisville, Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya, and Heather Johnson of Chunky. Warrior Cheerleaders are coached by Pam McKnight of Forest. (EC PHOTO)

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WEEK OF January 13, 2013

ECCC announces fall semester honor roll for local students

Students named to the 2012 fall semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to David Case, Dean of Admissions, Records and Research.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

PHILADELPHIA: Mary Margaret Bailey, Gregory Denzel Clemons, Cosper David Collins, Lauren Lana Daniels, Adrienne Nicole Edwards, Dagan Carol Elliott, Joshua Keith Gaines, Blake Ryan Gordon, Lajoya Keana Griffin, Hannah Catherine Jones, Colt Colby Killen, Caleb Parnell McKee, Zachary Craig Peden, Donald Ethan Pendergrass, Allison Leigh Perry, Tamie Jill Powe, Bobbi Jo Schwebel, Chandler James Smith, Hailey Lauren Smith, Savannah Echele Stuart-Dahl, Alexandra Therrell Weir, Bradley Marshal Winstead and Ronald Keith York.

UNION: Casey Jane Cherry, Tiffany Grace Dorman, Nathan R. Griffin, Erin Elizabeth Hall, Andrew Talbert Hanna, Victoria Shawn Holsen, Dana Loraine McKee, Summer M. Richardson and Patricia Anderon Thweatt.

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

PHILADEPHIA: Brittany Kay Bozeman, Corey Ray Burton, Miranda Michelle Clark, Lillion Carol Fulton, Vashika Makeba Goss, DeShayna Lynette Hickman, Donna Leann Hickman, Sharon Eileen Hobby, Dwight Jenkins, Allie Carol Killens, Charles Cory Kilpatrick, Leigh Allyson Loper, Samuel Hays Lovorn, Eden Nicole McGee, Carrie Lynn McLemore, [illegible] Terrance Adolphus Steele, Elauran'Adrianna Vowell, Keenen Brice Wahwasuck and Debria DeAnn Watson.

UNION: Shawn Michael Anderson, Robert Eugene Baker, Hannah Faye Berryhill, Ashley Renee Bozeman, Emma Catherine Burton, Ashley N. Doolittle, Brandon Christopher Downing, Jamie L. Elliot, Reneisha Lashae Evans, Tanner Jacob Fortenberry, Glenda Karen Gardner, Tyler Jennings Gilmore, Madison Brooke Herrington, Anna Cameron Himebrook, Tyler Reed Kilpatrick, Meghan L. McPherson, Jackie Le'Ann Moore, Ashlyn Leigh Pullin, Chelsea Grace Rigdon, Jayohnnie Leigh Slaughter, Tiffany Nichole Smith, Hayley Brooke Stephens, Lucas Murphy Viverette, Jacob Robert Wiggs, Mallory Peyton Williams and Nathan Dale Williams.

HONORABLE MENTION

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

CHOCTAW: Kristi Renae Bell, Ashley Dale Billie, Richard Farve, Gerren Anthony Isaac, EllaGa'ne Sam and Eli Isadore Tubby.

PHILADELPHIA: Virginia Easley, Kayla Michelle Alexander, Amanda Chaise Barrett, Michael Ryan Bell, Harrison Andrew Ben, Katelyn Emalee Bennett, Michael Keith Billie, Jessie Joanna Boatner, Jerry Denise Boggan, Amiah Boggan, Heather Nicole Bradley, Kendall Scott Brown, Tylan Chanteona Buckley, Chiquita Shenell Calloway, Melissa C. Charlie, Nicholas Elijah Chunn, Jordan Elizabeth Clearman, Elizabeth Coburn, Shamiski Zamorian Collier, Deana W. Cumberland, Jonee Brantley Cumberland, Taylor Ray Dickerson, Tammie Terell Easley O'Neal; Shan Carol Ely, Kayla Suzanne Estes, Christopher Chase Fairchild, Raymond [illegible] Mandrell Greer, Kenneth Lane Herrin, Joseph Alan Holdiness, Sharon Lynn Houston, Felecia Jacnell Howell, Shanna Elaine Isaac, Heaven Nehaya Jaafar, Erica L. Jenkins, Whitney Michelle Jenkins, Jared Jaye Jim, Anthen Johnson, Lacey Jo Johnson, Jessica Nicole Johnson, Cory Neal King, Christopher Alvin Langley, Ashley Ann Lawrence, Ashley Nashay Lovern, Marlee Shayne Massey, Brandon Matthew McCarty, Rodney Iydell McClendon, Jessica Rakesha McDonald, Karleigh Brianna Moss, Jeremy Clifton Nowell, Julie Ann Osborne, Lanna Elizabeth Parker, Dylan Scott Peden, Darius Marshay Peeples, Barbara Morris Pickens, Candice Lynn Poncho-Mingo, Tanner Thomas Rhodes, Jermaine Alexander Russell, Jessica May Skinner, Dylan Burt Sparnecht, Brianna Gayle Spears, Micah Clay Stewart, Nathan Tanner Stone, Carly Jan Thomas, Dustin Wayne Tubby, Katherine Lynn Upchurch, Dakota Michelle Vowell, Meagan Brittany Warren, Jonathan Robert Warren, Whitney Leree Wesley, Elaine Juliann White, Hillary Chantia Williams, Phillip M. Williamson, Brittany Leigh Winstead, Leslie Pauline Young and Amber Rose Hill.

UNION: Samantha Michelle Abel; Adriana Brooke Alderson, Ashley Briana Barnett, Joshua Lamar Bradley, Brittany Kayla Bryan, Coni Aalii-Sha Bryant, Elizabeth Renee Burnett, Kayla [illegible] Cornelius, Justin Paul Fender, Jonathan Hunter Fortenberry, Levi Augustus French, Emily Michelle Hansford, David R. Hardy, Jasmine Knisha Hunter, Susan Denice Jackson, Brittany Danielle Mallory, Victoria Elizabeth Malone, Jamie Lee Mayfield, Megan E. Montgomery, Jonathan Adam Moore, Mary Elizabeth Price, Ashleigh Nicole Savage, Richard M. Sistrunk, Nikki Lynn Slade, Yancey Leigh Tillman, Carley [illegible]

APPEARE
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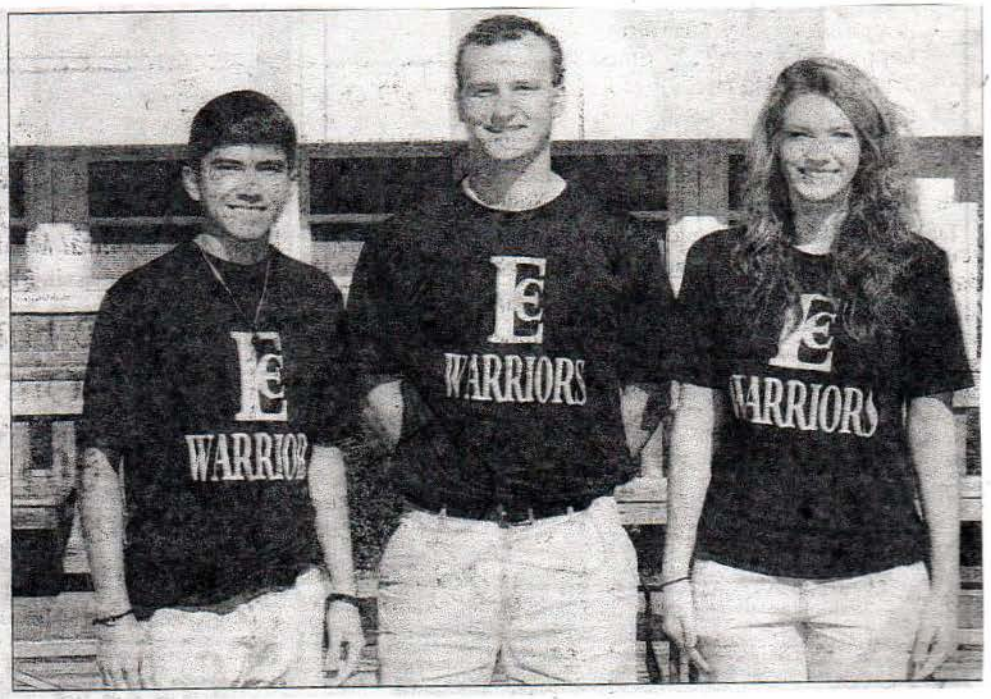
WEEK OF January 13, 2013

SCOTT COUNTY WARRIOR CORPS

These East Central Community College students from Scott County are new members of the 2012-13 Warrior Corps, a select group chosen to represent the College with recruiting and special events on the Decatur campus. From left are Eliud Alvarez and Matthew Evans, both of Forest; and Emily Marler, Morton. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors.



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WEEK OF January 20, 2013

Lt. Gov. Reeves to address ECCC's GED graduates

Reeves

Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves will be the featured speaker when East Central Community College holds its semi-annual GED® Graduation Thursday, Jan. 24, 2013, on the Decatur campus.

The ceremony begins at 7 p.m. in Huff Auditorium.

Reeves, a Rankin County native, was elected Mississippi's Lieutenant Governor in 2011 on a platform that included improving educational achievement for students.

Previously, he was elected Mississippi's 53rd Treasurer in 2003 and was re-elected to a second team four years later with 61 percent of the vote, the highest percentage of any candidate running for statewide office. He was the first Republican treasurer in the state's history.

Also scheduled to speak are GED® graduates Johnathon Scott of Carthage and Ashly Thompson of Forest, who will give testimonials.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart will also provide remarks.

Other program participants include Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction; Len Bobo, music instructor; and Bryan Burt, who serves as an Adult Basic Education/GED® instructor.

Approximately 35 students are expected to receive their high school equivalency diplomas, according to Ryan Clarke, director of Adult Basic Education and GED.

Graduates and their respective hometowns include Perry Randall Logan, Paulding; Ree Kinslow, Deanna Webb and Johnathon Scott, all of Carthage; Yolanda Renee Ruffin and Ashley Nicole Thomas, both of Lena; Benjamin Ferguson, Skylor Matthew Hines, Samantha M. Abel, Daniel Dywayne Fincher, Zach Holmes and Catina McFee, all of Union; Alicia Oliver, Odalys Portell, Destiny Lashay Threet and Morris W. Willis, Jr., all of Philadelphia; Terrie Lynn Aycox and Gillis Ray Duett, both of Decatur; Hannah Grace Robinson, Newton; Austin Jay Rowell, Lake; Michael D. Smith, Hickory; Samantha Bennett Thompson, Conehatta; Clarence L. Crimm, Kerry Ingle, Da'Marcus M. Lofton, Brittany Nicole Slack, Erica Denise Spivey and Ashly Thompson, all of Forest; Corey Ray Sistrunk and Melinda Sistruck, both of Pulaski; and Lajordan Tra Coleman, Candi Watkins, Chelsie Watkins and Katelyn Maree Woodard, all of Louisville.

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Hanna, Hardy

From school reports

Sophomore Andrew Hanna of Union and biology instructor Kim Hardy of Philadelphia were recently selected to represent East Central Community College in Decatur at the 2012-13 Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence program scheduled for Feb. 26 in Jackson.

The annual HEADWAE observance was established by the Mississippi Legislature to honor the academically talented students and faculty members from each of the 36 public and private member institutions of the Mississippi Association of Colleges.

Honorees are invited to the State Capitol where they are welcomed by Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves and recognized in each Legislative chamber.

A luncheon is scheduled at the Jackson Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson, during which each student and faculty honoree is recognized in front of their guests, institution leaders, corporate sponsors and legislators.

In addition to the public recognition, a booklet will be published featuring photos and biographical sketches of each honoree.

Hanna, a President's List Scholar who holds a perfect 4.0 grade point average, plans to major in chemistry.

He has received several honors at EC, including the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Award, Frank M. Cross Chemistry Award and Secondary Education Award.

He also holds various positions of leadership in several campus organizations.

He serves as vice president for leadership of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and is co-president of the Baptist Student Union and Warrior Corps. In addition, he serves as secretary of the President's Council.

He is also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and served as vice president his freshman year. He also holds membership in the Environmental Club.

Hanna's involvement in campus activities also includes participation in athletics. He is a two-year member of the Warrior tennis team and was on the men's basketball squad his freshman season.

He is a 2011 honor graduate of Newton County Academy, where he was valedictorian and chosen for the Hall of Fame.

He was also selected STAR Student and was named to the WTOK-TV All Scholastic Sports Team. Other honors include selection as a Scholar Athlete and Citizenship Award recipient, in addition to numerous subject awards.

Hanna also held positions of leadership in several clubs and organizations and received numerous awards in basketball and tennis.

He is a longtime member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 29 of the Choctaw Area Council in Union and received the rank of Eagle Scout in 2007.

In addition, he is a member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur and serves as a Sunday school teacher.

Hanna is also involved in mission work and went to Thailand in the summer of 2012 as a part of a team supporting missionaries in Southeast Asia. He plans to return to the same area this summer and assist a missionary doctor in his clinics and teach English speaking classes.

He was one of 48 students selected from across the nation to attend the FBI National

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named HEADWAE honorees

Selected as East Central Community College's HEADWAE student and instructor of the Year, respectively, are sophomore Andrew Hanna (left) of Union and biology instructor Kim Hardy of Philadelphia. They will represent the two-year institution in Decatur at the annual program scheduled for Feb. 26. in Jackson.

EC photo

Academy Youth Leadership Program in 2008 at Quantico, Va. He was chosen president of the 11th Session of the FBINA Youth Leadership Program.

Hanna also participated in the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership program in 2009.

His parents are Rusty and Lanette Hanna of Union.

Hardy joined the EC faculty in the fall of 2005 after previously serving as an interim instructor and adjunct faculty member. She is also a former biology and human anatomy instructor at Philadelphia High School and previously served as a science instructor at Mississippi State University and Kosciusko Middle School.

Hardy has received several other teaching honors while at EC, including her selection as Lamplighter instructor in 2010, an annual program that recognizes the state's outstanding community and junior college faculty members. She was also named to Who's Who Among Community College Instructors.

In addition to her teaching duties, Hardy serves as sponsor of the Sigma Sigma Mu Tau Medical Club.

She received several teaching honors prior to joining the EC faculty. She was the 1993 recipient of the Herbert M. Handley Outstanding Teacher Award presented by the Mississippi Science Teachers' Association. She also received the 1992 Science and Mathematics Teacher Award from the Mississippi State University Chapter of Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society.

A 1974 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Hardy received an associate's degree in dental hygiene from Meridian Community College in 1979, where she was graduated with highest honors and was chosen for Who's Who Among Students in American Community Colleges.

She continued her education at Mississippi State University in Starkville, where she received bachelor and master's degrees in biology in 1990 and 1991, respectively.

Hardy is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Biology Education from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Her professional affiliations include membership in the Mississippi Science Teachers' Association.

She is married to Bobby Hardy and they reside in Philadelphia. She has a daughter, Mrs. Tommy Wayne (Leigh) McDaniel; two stepdaughters, Mrs. Grant (Carmen) Ford and Deanna Hardy; and four grandchildren, Mason Payne, Brian, Pasiley Grace, and Hooper McDaniel.

Hardy's parents are Glois and Doris Daniels of Philadelphia.

WEEK OF January 27, 2013

Emily Marler Crowned 2012 Miss Morton

Emily Marler, daughter of Robert and Cathy Marler, and granddaughter of A.W. and Clyde Marler and the late Doc Keeton and Bobbie Keeton Graver, was crowned 2012 Miss Morton at the 54th annual Miss Morton Pageant in April at the Livingston Arts Center at Roosevelt State Park. A graduate of Morton High School and attending East Central Community College, Emily plans to attend Mississippi State University and pursue a degree in secondary education. The new Miss Morton received at full tuition scholarship valued at $3.580. Gloriana Latham was first runner-up and Alana Bridges was second runner-up. The Miss Morton Pageant is sponsored by the Morton Chamber of Commerce.

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WEEK OF January 27, 2013

East Central Community College students excel

East Central Community College in Decatur has announced its President's and Honorable Mention Lists for the 2012 fall semester. Those named to the President's List have maintained a 4.0 grade point average; Honorable Mention List, 3.0 or higher.

Madison County honorees include: **President's List:** Madeline J. Potter and Ruby O. Potter, both of Flora; **Honorable Mention List:** Jonathan D. Brown and Nathaniel B. Dickens, both of Canton; John M. Berry and John C. Bruening, both of Madison; and Monica M. Johnson of Ridgeland.

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Awards

WEEK OF February 3, 2013

Receive First Chair Honors During ECCC Band Clinic

These local musicians received first chair, first band honors during the 35th annual East Central Community College Invitational Band Clinic held January 25-26 on the Decatur campus. The two-day clinic is the largest band clinic in the College's history with more than 250 musicians participating. The clinic is comprised of first, second and third bands: gold, black and white bands, respectively, which include the top musicians from the ECCC's five-county district. The clinic concluded with a concert in Huff Auditorium. Students receiving first chair, first band honors and their respective schools include (front row, from left) Cameron Higgason (contrabass clarinet), Philadelphia; Tehearia Campbell (bass clarinet), Morton; Annalea Clarke (percussion), Newton County; Ava Cumberland (flute), Neshoba Central; Cayla Carraway (alto saxophone), Union; and Katlyn Patrick (mallets), Forest; and (back row, from left) Kayla Sudduth (euphonium), Morton; Graham Murphree (tenor saxophone), Newton County; Evan Derrick (trombone), Morton; Dylan Brister (baritone saxophone), Neshoba Central; Dustin Jackson (horn), Louisville; Daniela Vargas (trumpet), Morton; and Kymberly Croft (clarinet) and Charlie Gaddis (tuba), both of Newton County. Clinicians for the event included Dr. Mohamad Schuman, the associate director of bands at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg; Jason Harrell, director of bands at Pearl Junior High in Pearl, and a graduate of Scott Central High School; and DeMario Jefferson, assistant director of bands at Starkville High School in Starkville. Hunter Corhern serves as ECCC Director of Bands. Ed Girling serves as assistant director of ECCC bands. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF February 3, 2013

Threet earns GED

Threet

Destiny Lashay Threet, daughter of Lacosta and Dewayne Yates, of Louisville and the late James Threet formerly of Kosciusko graduated from ECCC Thursday January 24, 2013, with her GED Degree.

She is planning to furhter pursue her education in August at Urshan Graduate School of Theology in Florissant, Missouri with a Degree in Youth Ministry and later back at ECCC to pursue a nursing LPN degree and later an RN.

She is the granddaughter of Sheila and Anthony Mims, of Philadelphia and late Danny Barnes formerly of Ethel MS and Helen Yates and the late Shelby Yates of Louisville. Destiny has two sister and three brothers. She is the great granddaughter of late Bud and Annette Sanders of Four Corners. She is the great great granddaughter of Mary Ann Sanders of Philadelphia and the late Earl Sanders of Four Corners. Her family is all very thankful for her and wishes her the best. She is a member of North United Pentecostal Church in Philadelphia, MS. Her Pastor is Rev. Nathan Moore.

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WEEK OF February 3, 2003

ECCC students in legislative event

East Central Community College students had opportunity to visit legislators at the annual Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Legislative Appreciation Day in Jackson, including, from left, starting second from left, Lucas Calvert, of Louisville; Claire Griffin, of Decatur; LaJoya Griffin, of Philadelphia; and freshman Aaron Tucker, of Carthage, meeting with Rep. Randy Rushing, far left, of Decatur, and Rep. Michael Evans, of Preston.

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WEEK OF February 3 2013

East Central releases fall '12 honor rolls for local students

Students named to the 2012 fall semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College.

President's List

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

FOREST: Adriana Esguerra, Megan Olivia Everett, Jessica Annette King, Shaki Shalone McLaurin and Jason Hunter Stroud;

LAKE: Gary Dewayne Cooksey, Tiffany C. Gardner, Lashonda Raquel Johnston, Shelby Lea Parkman, Meagan Nicole Reid and Leslie N. Tucker;

LENA: Haley Eliza Johnson, Meghan Alaina Johnson, Shelby Lynne Johnston, Amanda Diane Lott and Dustin Cody Watkins;

MORTON: Melissa K. Bailey, Anna Elizabeth Boyd and Emily Elizabeth Marler;

PULASKI: Joseph Tell Matuszewski;

WALNUT GROVE: Wanda Diana Harrison and Amber Lyn Pierce.

Dean's List

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

FOREST: Tony Ladell Alford, Eliud Alvarez, Jessica Kay Barnett, Jessica Rolanda Brown, Lavell Brown, Lorraina Marcila Burkes, Daniel Hernandez Chim, Emilee Anna Cox, Kelsey Beth Cox, Shawn Matthew Evans, Zachary Gardner, Sharley Renea Hardin, Luis Felipe Hernandez, Rosalia Hernandez-Chim, Brittany N. Hutchinson, Angela Loretta Irby, Todd O'Neal Johnson, Otarius De'Otis Lloyd, Maria Isabel Martinez, Samantha Kaye McDaniel, Demetrice Lashae Moore, Shelby McMillan Patterson, Brady Franklin Power, Kimberly Rae Rigby, Laquita Nicole Rogers, Justin Wayne Rushing, Peggy Sims and Aimee Adrienne Stiles;

HARPERVILLE: Shaticeka Latice Kincaid;

LAKE: Jessie Robert Barrett, Casey Shea Bryant, Allison Paige Colbert, Clarence Edward Creel, Marquel C. Evans, Spear Gilmer, Pheanice Hamm-Brown, Devyn Ely Harrison, Emmarald Moneish Kiera Jones, Brianna Lyndsay Parkman and Andrea Christan Taflinger;

LENA: Katlyn Nicole Busby, Katie Nicole Spears and Denise Patrica Townsend;

LOUIN: Emily Claire Gully and Lynsey Paige Johnson;

MORTON: Kara B. Johnson, Hannah Lea McCurdy, Holli Virginia Nutt, Justin Devon Runnels and Betty J. Tucker;

SEBASTOPOL: Aderian Kendal Partain;

WALNUT GROVE: Kelli F. Alford, Krystan Leah Bolton, Cynthia Denise Carter, Jeremy Scott Denson, Sandra Diane Diehl, Amber C. Jones, Candace Mae Marchant, Kristen Renee Smith and William Turner Stevens; and

Honorable Mention

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

FOREST: Christopher Dwane Allen, Crystal Denise Anderson, Shyanna Kordae Bell, Ruby Doris Bolden, Brandi Joyce Bounds, Kristy Roshelia Bounds, Ornisha Mozell Brown, Chelsea Cleanise Campbell, Betty Jean Cox, Lee Anna Crimm, Erica Hailey Ervin, Andrew Michael Evans, Lucretia Tatum Gaddis, Christy M'Lee Gibbs, Lydia Catherine Henderson, Tanihhija Hughes, Kerry Keith Ingle, Carolyn Marie Keeton, Ian Chandler Lanthrip, Ryan Dion McClendon, Syneisha Eulorian McCurdy, Edna Ruth McDonald, Erik Daniel Moya, Larreessa Debrelle Pace, Mae Doris Patrick, Danielle Brooke Pettigrew, Dustin Cane Phillips, Thomas Zane Phipps, Brittany Santana Pinter, Matthew Scott Risher, Luis Felipe Rosas, Kirstie G. Shaw, Eryn Payton Smith, Connor Maxwell Steptoe, Taneisha Phonik White and Ernest Clayton Williamson;

HARPERVILLE: Marticeka Chatice Kincaid;

LAKE: Karley Joanna Allen, Jacob Clark Emmons, Jacob Sawyer Gibbs, Rienzi Desean Gray, Corey Dalton Kelly, Kasey Morgan Logan, Cody Jewett Mitchell, Debra Michele Parker and Mark Anthony Shoemaker;

LENA: Archie Jean Johnson, William Leo Milner, Lacie Nicole Sessums and Elizabeth Brooke Wilson;

LOUIN: Jalisa M. Wheaton, Helen Grace Wilson and Miracle Lagrace Wilson;

MORTON: Makenzie Layne Adcoc, Alicia Brook Boykin, Jeffery Woodard Boykin, Aaron Dustin Dipuma, Chauncy Lee Griffin, Kelsey Elizabeth Hall, Samuel David Irby, Percy T. Lewis, Allyson Courtnie Nichols, Justin Ray Nutt, Christin Renee Polk, Zabulius Markey Reese, Leah Alexis Rigney, Meghan Schmidt, Jessica Nicole Stinson, Alice Jewel Towner and Pepper Lee Weed-Cooper;

PULASKI: Myrna Susan Parkman, Kelsi Diane Walters and Ivory Summer Weldon;

SEBASTOPOL: Brittany Nicole Savell;

WALNUT GROVE: Felicia Nicole Clark, Ashland Brooke Ellington, Derron A. Gates, Yasmin Ti'Anna Gill, Jackie Ann Hogue, Mary Kathryn Loper, Sabrina Janae Posey, Emily Frances Price, Dana Marie Spivey, Megan Elizabeth Thaggard, Erin Leigh Thornton and Cassandra Gail Willis

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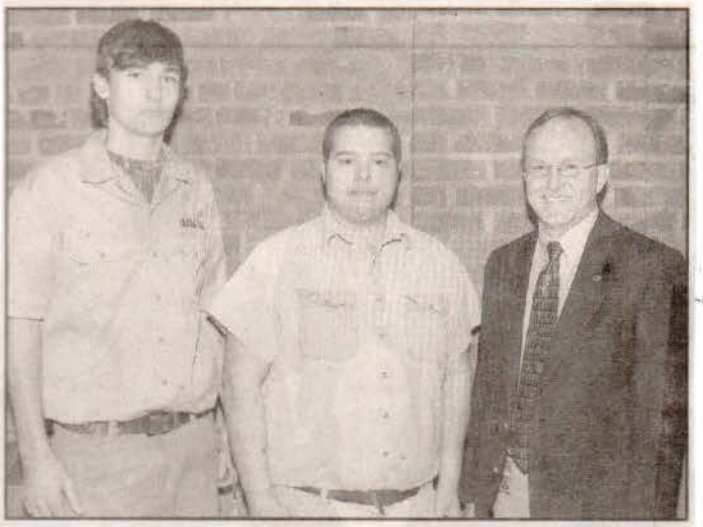
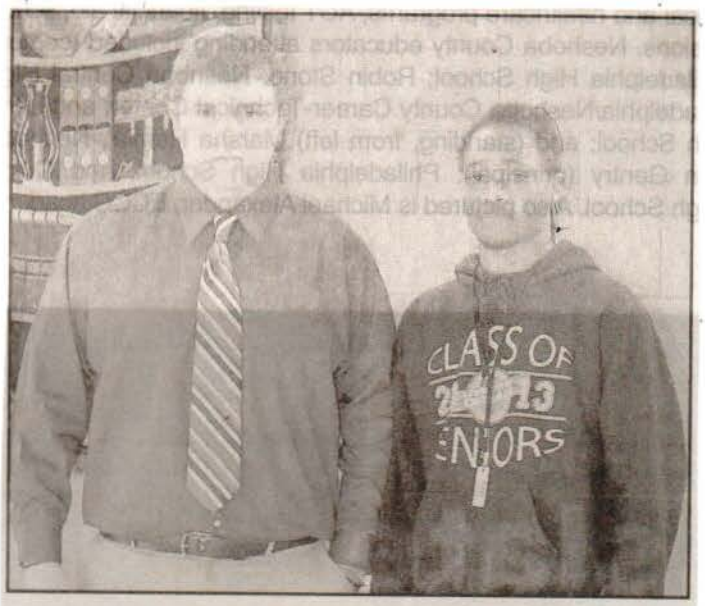
WEEK OF February 18, 2013



Receives top honors

These students received top honors in the "Cabinetmaking" competition in the Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships for Region 3 held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Approximately 185 area students participated in the annual event. Pictured are (from left) Jared Revette, first place, Smith County Career-Technical Center; and Michael Barnett, second, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. Also pictured is Wayne Eason, ECCC Director of Workforce Education. Not pictured is Matthew Baldereas, third place, Ross Collins Career-Technical Center. The winners advance to state competition scheduled February 26-27 in Jackson. (EC Photo)



Philadelphia seniors sign

Two Philadelphia High School seniors recently signed scholarships. At left, Dustin Sullivan signed with Holmes Community College while Anthony Triplett, right, signed with East Central Community College.

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WEEK OF February 11-2013

The above members of the Wall O' Sound Band at East Central Community College in Decatur were recently selected for the Mississippi Junior/Community College Band Association All-Collegiate Band. Pictured are (front row, from left) Jessie Armstrong and Hannah Cade, both of West Lauderdale; Samantha Farley of Neshoba Central and Matt Graham of Lake; and (back row from left) Zach Peden and Leslie Young, both of Neshoba Central; and Sarah LaBue (alternate) and Hannah Berryhill (alternate), both of Newton County.

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ECCC awards GED diplomas at semi-annual ceremony

Numerous area residents received their high school equivalency diplomas at the semi-annual GED Graduation held Jan. 24, 2013, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Mississippi Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves was guest speaker for the special ceremony, held in Huff Auditorium.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to the 33 graduates. Other program participants representing the College included Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, music instructor Len Bobo and Adult Basic Education/GED instructor Bryan Burt.

Graduates Ashly Thompson of Forest and Johnathon Scott of Carthage also participated in the program and provided testimonials.

Other graduates and their respective hometowns included Perry Randall Logan, Paulding; Ree Kinslow and Deanna Webb, both of Carthage; Yolanda Renee Ruffin and Ashley Nicole Thomas, both of Lena; Benjamin Ferguson, Skylor Matthew Hines, Samantha M. Able, Daniel Dywayne Fincher, Zach Holmes and Catina McFee, all of Union; Alicia Oliver, Odalys Portell, Destiny Lashay Threet and Morris W. Willis, Jr. all of Philadelphia; Terri Lynn Aycox and Gillis Ray Duett, both of Decatur; Hannah Grace Robinson, Newton; Austin Jay Rowell, Lake; Michael D. Smith, Hickory; Samantha Bennett Thompson, Conehatta; Clarance L. Crimm, Kerry Ingle, Da'Marcus M. Lofton, Brittney Nicole Slack and Erica Denise Spivey, all of Forest; Corey Ray Sistrunk and Melinda Sistrunk, both of Pulaski; and Lajordan Tra Coleman, Candi Watkins, Chelsie Watkins and Katelyn Maree Woodard, all of Louisville.

East Central offers free Adult Basic Education/GED-Preparation classes throughout the five-county district.

For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.

These recipients of high school equivalency diplomas received special recognition at the semi-annual GED Graduation ce mony held Jan. 24, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Ready to begin their new life journeys are (seated from Katelyn Maree Woodard, Louisville; Austin Jay Rowell, Lake; Lajordan Tra Coleman, Louisville; Hannah Grace Robins Newton; Deanna M. Webb, Carthage; Yolanda Renee Ruffin, Lena; Alicia Oliver and Odalys Portell, both of Philadelp Michael D. Smith, Hickory; and Samantha Bennett Thompson, Conehatta; (second row, from left) Morris W. Willis, Philadelp Benjamin Ferguson, Union; Candi Watkins and Chelsie Watkins, both of Louisville; Destiny Lasha Threet, Philadelphia; Ash Nicole Thomas, Lena; Perry Randall Logan, Paulding; Melinda Sistrunk, Pulaski; Kerry Ingle, Forest; Samantha M. Able, Un Terrie Lynn Aycox, Decatur; and Erica Denise Spivey, Forest; and (back row, from left) Zack Holmes, Union; Ashly Thomps Forest; Ree Kinslow, Carthage; Da'Marcus M. Lofton, Forest; Johnathon S. Scott, Carthage; Daniel Dywayne Fincher, Un Clarance L. Crimm, Forest; Corey Ray Sistrunk, Pulaski; Gillis Ray Duett, Decatur; Catina McFee, Union; and Skylor Matth Hines, Union. Scott and Thompson also provided testimonials. Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves served as guest speaker. ECCC Presid Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to the 33 graduates. Other program participants included Board of Trustees Chairman Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, music instructor Len Bobo and ABE/G instructor Bryan Burt. ECCC offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes throughout the College's five-county district. For m information on ECCC's Adult Basic Education/GED Program, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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'Never give up; keep pushing,' urges ECCC GED graduate

Ashly Thompson of Forest and Johnathon Scott of Carthage were among recipients of high school equivalency diplomas presented at the semi-annual GED Graduation held Jan. 24, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Both were also among featured speakers and related their personal testimonials at the special ceremony, which also included remarks from Mississippi Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves who congratulated graduates and encouraged them to continue their education.

Thompson, 23, lost her home to Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and was living in a tent at a resort area as she began her senior year at D'Iberville High School.

She passed first semester but was unable to complete the second term and dropped out of school.

For several years she attempted to pass the GED Test but was unsuccessful.

She later moved to the Scott County area, and with her finance's assistance and encouragement, she enrolled in GED classes offered at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

"Mrs. (Teresa) Lovett and Mrs. (Elizabeth) Nutt helped me refresh my skills," said Thompson, "and it wasn't long until I was prepared to take my test.....which I passed the first time I took it!"

Thompson said she is "most appreciative" of the support from family and instructors.

"The support from my finance, his mom and my instructors helped me turn my life around," she said. "I now know the future is bright for my son and me."

Thompson is currently enrolled in evening and on-line classes offered by ECCC.

Scott, 19, began his education at French Camp Academy in Choctaw County. He struggled to succeed in math and failed the fourth grade.

"My mother always told me that she wasn't good in math either, but that I needed to keep on trying," Scott said.

He later attended Weir High School and eventually went to Chamberlain-Hunt Academy in Port Gibson, where he finished the eleventh grade.

"Although I finished the eleventh grade, I realized that not only did I not like math but math did not like me, either!"

He left Chamberlain-Hunt and spent the summer months living in Louisville with Garry and Ramona Hughes who earlier became his family's "sponsor" at French Camp.

While residing in Louisville, Scott enrolled in GED classes taught by instructors Daphne Donald and Kay Ward. "They pushed me and I pushed myself," said Scott. "I passed all the GED sections except one – math, which I finally passed on my third attempt! I had finally completed my GED!"

As he struggled to pass the math section of the GED Test, Scott said he kept remembering what his mom told him before she died on Easter Sunday 2012, "Never give up – keep pushing!"

Scott encouraged others who are thinking about giving up on their dreams of a better life through education to do the same..."Never give up!"

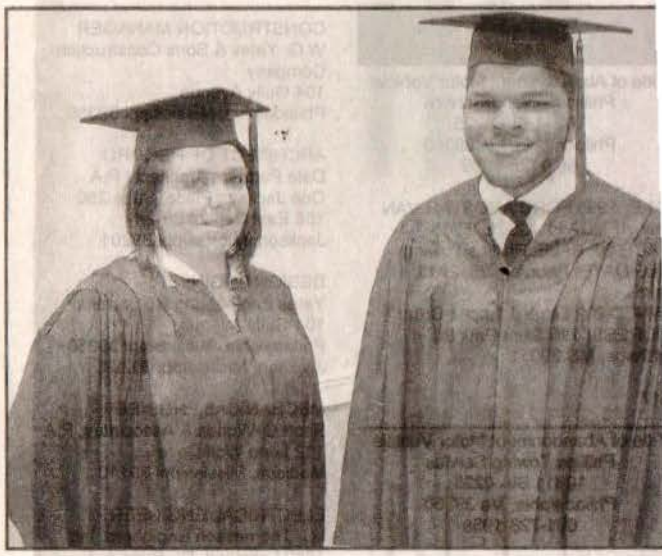
Scott plans to continue his education and become a computer programmer.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to the 34 graduates.

Other program participants include ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, music instructor Len Bobo and Adult Basic Education/GED instructor Bryan Burt.

East Central offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes throughout the five-county district.

For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call free, 877-462-3222, ext. 3 His e-mail address rclarke@eccc.edu.



Ashly Thompson, left, of Forest and Johnathon Scott Carthage provided inspirational messages at the semi-ann GED Graduation held Jan. 24,at East Central Commun College in Decatur. They were among the 33 area residents receive high school equivalency diplomas from EC President Dr. Billy Stewart. (EC Photo)

APPEAL CARTHA NEWTO SPIRIT MERIDI

WEEK OF February 10, 2013

GED grads at ECCC

High school equivalency diplomas were presented to the above Newton County residents at the semi-annual GED graduation held Jan. 24, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Michael D. Smith, Hickory; Hannah Grace Robinson, Newton; Samantha Bennett Thompson, Conehatta; and Samantha M. Abel, Union. Standing from left are Daniel Dywayne Fincher, Union; Gillis Ray Duett, Decatur; Catina McFee, Union; and Terri Lynn Aycox, Decatur. Mississippi Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves was guest speaker for the special ceremony. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to the 33 graduates.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF February 17, 2013

ECCC's Windham Selected for Drum Corps International

East Central Community College sophomore Shawn Windham of Morton was recently chosen to participate in the Spirit of Atlanta Drum and Bugle Corps, a member of Drum Corps International (DCI).

Windham, who serves as a color guard captain for the ECCC Wall O' Sound Band, will be marching with the corps this summer. DCI hosts marching events throughout the United States, including performances in Ocean Springs and Hattiesburg on July 23 and 24, respectively. The season concludes with a grand finale competition in August. The title of the 2013 Spirit of Atlanta show is "Speakeasy."

Windham first became interested in Drum Corps as a student at Morton High School.

"Our high school (band) director showed us Drum Corps videos," he said. "Music has always been a big part of my life. I started playing saxophone in the eleventh grade. Guys couldn't be a part of the guard in high school, but I tried out here and made it.

"I plan to audition for color guard at USM (University of Southern Mississippi) in March. I will probably be a culinary major at USM, but I hope to also be a guard instructor some day."

He will begin training camp in April, start full rehearsals Memorial Day Weekend and begin touring in June.

"We will have the two Mississippi shows in July and after touring completes in August, I will only have a few days before fall semester starts at USM," Windham added.

In order to travel with the group, Windham will have to raise his own funds. Those interested in making donations may send them to Shawn Windham, ECCC Band Department, P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327.

According to the Corps Web site, Spirit of Atlanta Drum & Bugle Corps, founded in 1976, is a nonprofit youth performing arts education organization based in Atlanta, GA. The corps comprises 150 brass, percussion, and color guard members, ages 15 to 22, who perform an 11-minute show that integrates artistic and athletic skill in an entertaining display of outdoor pageantry. Members are selected by audition based on their musical ability, movement skills, and attitude.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF February 27, 2013

ECCC Top 10 Beauties

These ladies were selected for the Top 10 during the annual Beauty Pageant held Tuesday, February 19, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (from left) Kamaran Malone, Leake Academy; Taylor Gressett and Alex Hollingsworth, both of Newton County; Emily Gully, Sylva Bay Academy; Erin Thornton, Kelsey Bounds, Jayohnnie Slaughter and Madison Stringer, all of Newton County; Kaitlyn Busby, East Rankin Academy; and Emily Marler, Mor- [illegible] ECC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Carson, Griffin named Mr. and Miss ECCC

From school reports

Jeremy Carson of Decatur and LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia were recently selected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College by a vote of the student body.

Carson is the son of Tom and Brenda Carson of Decatur and is a 2011 graduate of Newton County High School.

Carson said he enjoys the fact that ECCC is a "close-knit family." He said his favorite memory from East Central was being a part of Spring Spree. Carson said "hands down" his favorite on-campus activities are the ones the Student Body Association sponsors.

He said he is most inspired by his father and former Director of Bands Tom Carson.

"He has strongly battled esophageal cancer and has never let it get him down," said Carson.

Jeremy is a vocal music education major and a member of various musical organizations including Ac'cents, Concert Choir, Collegians, and the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

In addition, Carson is a member of Warrior Corps, Student Body Association, President's Council and ECCC Players. He is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was selected for Who's Who Among Students In American Junior Colleges. He said he enjoys reading, attending sporting events, singing and socializing with friends.

After receiving his associate's degree at East Central, Carson plans to continue his education at the University of Southern Mississippi.

LaJoya Griffin is the daughter of Ken Griffin of Philadelphia and Juliet Griffin of Chicago. She is a 2011 graduate of Philadelphia High School.

"Friendly atmosphere and small classroom sizes that allow me a one-on-one opportunity to communicate with my teachers is my favorite thing about East Central," said Griffin.

Griffin said her family inspires her.

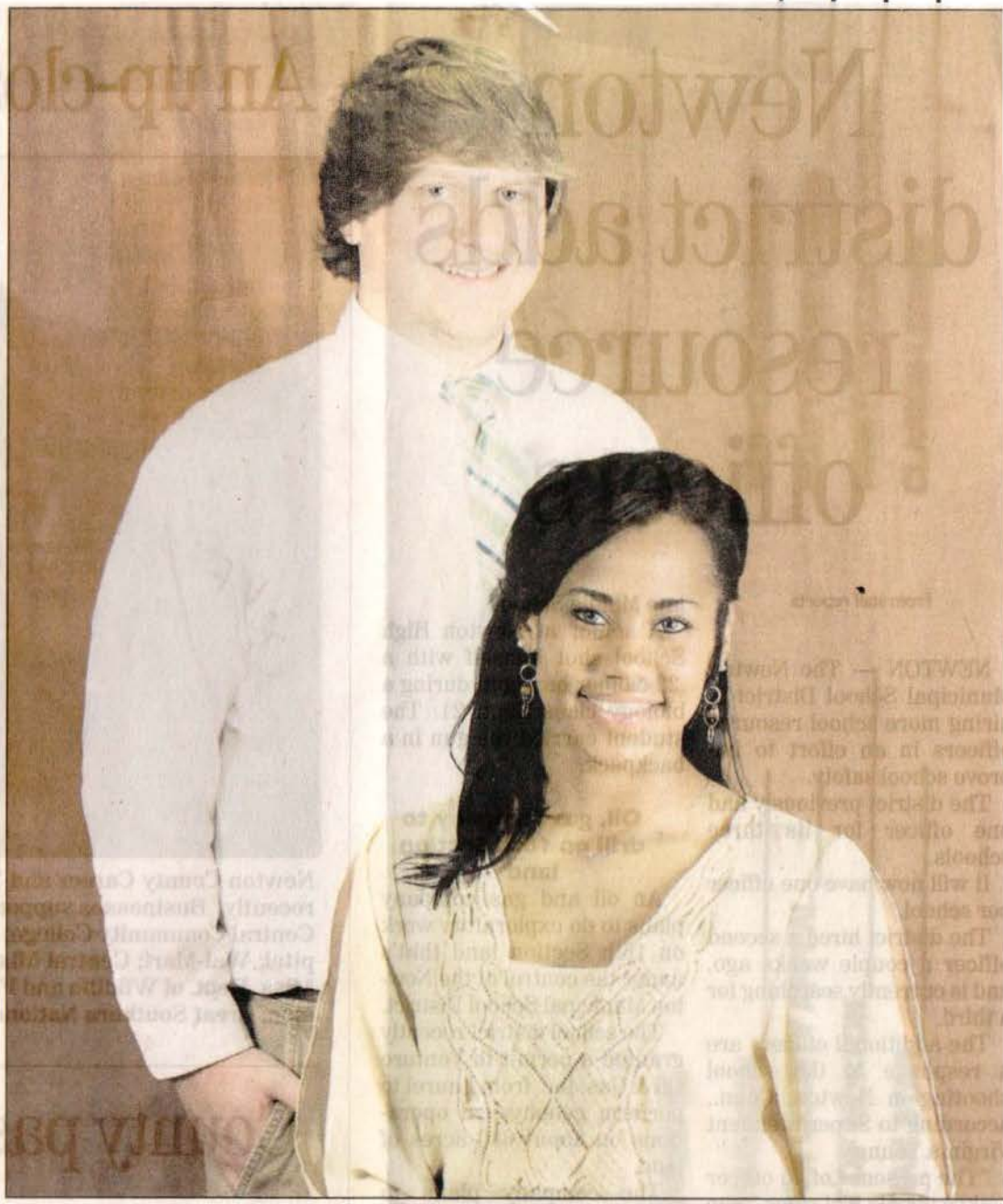
"My family inspires me with their encouragement, love, and support. I would love to make each family member proud, especially my parents," she said.

Griffin is a liberal arts major, but despite this, she is leaning toward a career in the medical field. Griffin is involved in numerous activities including Phi Theta Kappa, Lady Warrior Softball, Warrior Corps, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, Phi Beta Lamba and Student Athletic Advisory Committee. She is also a member of the Neshoba Youth Coalition.

In addition, she was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges and was Maid of Honor at the 2012 ECCC Homecoming.

Griffin said she enjoys playing sports, spending time with family, cooking, fishing, hunting and four-wheeler riding.

She plans to continue her education and work toward a higher degree in her field of study.



Jeremy Carson of Decatur and LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia were recently selected Mr. an Miss East Central Community College.

WEEK OF February 24, 2013

Neshoba GED grads

High school equivalency diplomas were presented to the above Neshoba County residents at the semi-annual GED Graduation held Jan. 24 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Alicia Oliver, Odalys Portell and Destiny Lashay Threet, all of Philadelphia. Standing from left are Skylor Matthew Hines, Union; Morris W. Willis, Jr., Philadelphia; and Benjamin Ferguson and Zach Holmes, both of Union. Mississippi Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves was guest speaker for the special ceremony. ECCC President Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to the 33 graduates. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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K OF March 3, 2013

ECCC Chooses Class Favorites

The favorites for freshman and sophomore classes of 2012-13 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur, following a recent student body election. Those elected and their respective high schools, include: (front row, from left) Allie Killens, Saltillo; Payton Smith, Scott Central; Lindsey McCool and Jayden Fryery, both of Winston Academy; Taylor Gressett and Hannah Farmer, both of Newton County; Tiana Grover, Newton County Academy; and Haley Covert, West Lauderdale; (back row, from left) Zach May and Chandler Smith, Newton County; Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy; Cole Ballard, Newton County; Lucas Viverette, Union; Tyler Warnat, New Hope; Layton Holcomb, Oak Grove; and Tyler Pigg, Newton County. (EC Photo)

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MERIDIAN STAR-LEDGER

WEEK OF March 3, 2013

ECCC visit

Attends ECCC Nontraditional Conference for Male Students

Ty Carter (left) of Louisville receives assistance from East Central Community College Business Technology student Yashica Ickom of Lake during the College's annual Nontraditional Conference for Male Students. During the day's activities, male students participate in hands-on activities and tour programs that typically enroll female students. Additional programs featured included computer technology, cosmetology, culinary arts, early childhood education, nursing, surgical technology and hotel/restaurant management. A Nontraditional Conference for Female students is also held each year. For more information, contact Career-Technical Counselor Amanda Walton at 601-635-6214. The e-mail address is awalton@eccc.edu. (EC Photo).

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WEEK OF March 3, 2013

Visit ECCC

Attend ECCC Nontraditional Conference for Male Students

Daniel McMahan (right) of Newton County High School is shown experimenting with Surgical Technology robotic equipment during East Central Community College's annual Nontraditional Conference for Male Students. During the day's activities, male students participate in hands-on activities and tour programs that typically enroll female students. Also pictured are (from left) ECCC Surgical Technology instructor Kristie Pilgrim, Surgical Technology student Stephen "Wally" Triplett of Nanih Waiya and Newton County students Tylin Sorrells and Austin McElhenney. Additional programs featured included computer technology, cosmetology, culinary arts, early childhood education, nursing, surgical technology and hotel/restaurant management. A Nontraditional Conference for Female students is also held each year. For more information, contact Career-Technical Counselor Amanda Walton at 601-635-6214. The e-mail address is awalton@eccc.edu.

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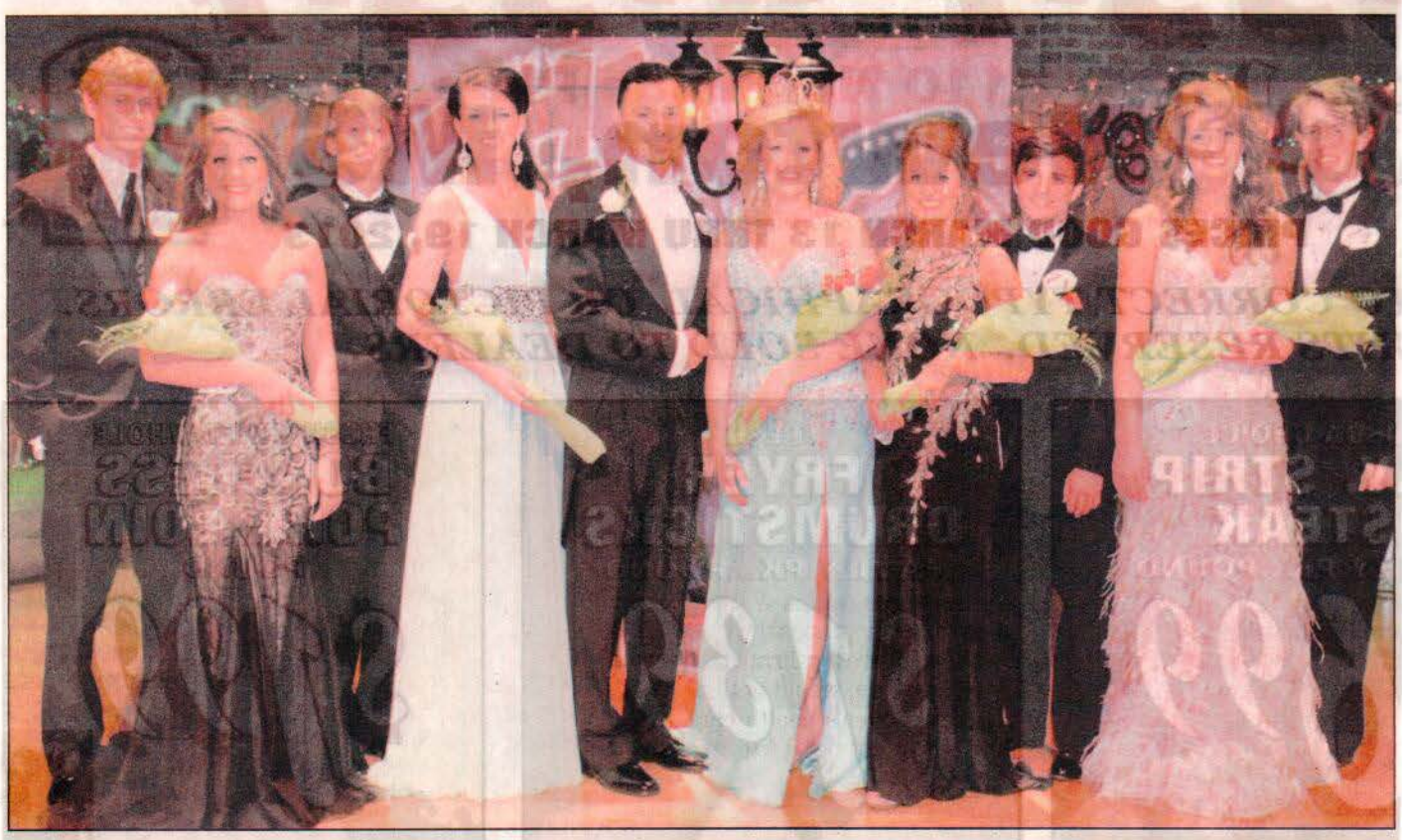
WEEK OF March 16, 2013

Beauties, beaus at East Central



These East Central Community College students were selected beauties and beaus during the annual beauty pageant held recently on the Decatur campus. Winners and their respective high schools are (from left) Cole Ballard and Taylor Gressett, both of Newton County; William Meruvia, Neshoba Central; Emily Gully, Sylva Bay Academy; Drew Thames (Most Handsome), Neshoba Central; Kelsey Bounds (Most Beautiful) and Madison Stringer, both of Newton County; Zachary Killion, South Oldham, Crestwood, KY; Emily Marler, Morton; and Sam Lovorn, Neshoba Central.

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WEEK OF March 10, 2013

Capitol day

East Central Community College officials and students were among participants at the annual "Capitol Day" held Feb. 28, 2013, at the State Legislature in Jackson and hosted by the Mississippi Faculty Association for Community and Junior Colleges. The event is held to encourage lawmakers to continue their financial support of the state's two-year colleges. Pictured are (front, from left) ECCC students Will Stokes of Philadelphia, Lucas Calvert of Louisville, Erin Thornton of Walnut Grove, Charlotte Carver of Louisville and Pheanice Hamm-Brown of Lake, and (back row, from left) State Representatives Tom Miles of Forest and Randy Rushing of Decatur; State Senator Terry C. Burton of Newton; State Representative Michael Evans of Preston; and ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. Senator Burton was among featured speakers at a news conference held at the State Capitol and reiterated his support for two-year colleges. "It's important for us to know as legislators that the best value in education in Mississippi, and I believe in the world, is the Mississippi community and junior college system. Our continued economic success demands that we provide for you the best funding source that we can from the state. It doesn't go unnoticed – the accountability, the efficiency and the numbers of people you serve with those funds," Senator Burton said. "We're going to do the very best that we can in funding you." (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 14, 2013

Culinary arts technology students representing ECCC provided dessert items for the MACJC Legislative Appreciation Luncheon held recently in Jackson. From left are Callie Wray of Meridian, Sheneka Spivey of McCool, Sophia Wheaton of Newton and instructor Barry Karrh, who are shown with lemonade tarts and chocolate silk tarts prepared for the special occasion. All food items were prepared by students representing the state's community colleges.

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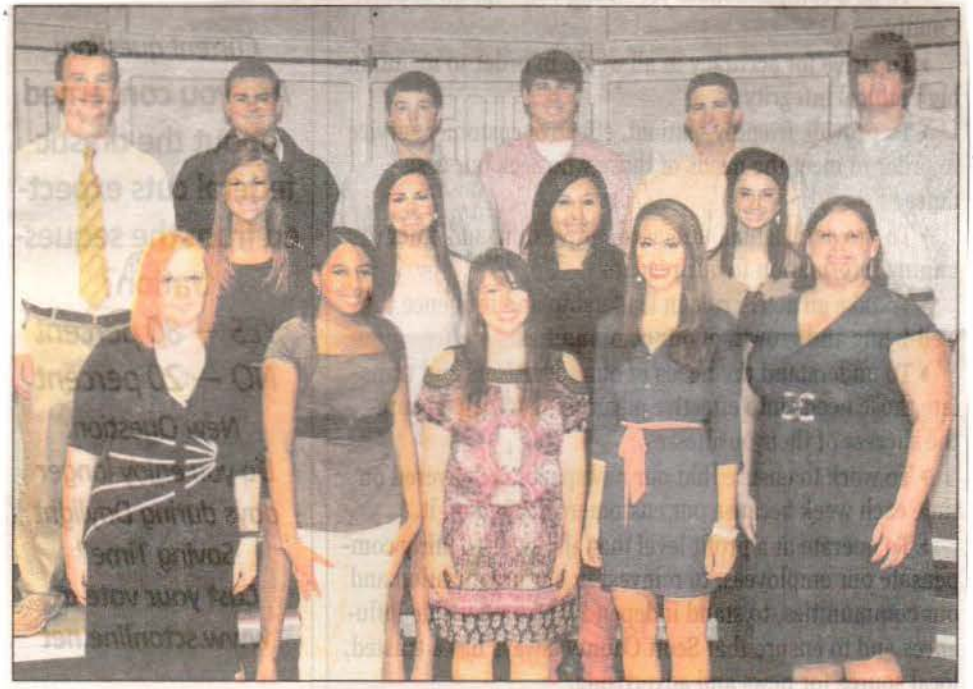
WEEK OF March 10, 2013



ECCC PHOTO

These students from Scott County were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges during the annual spring semester ceremony held February 28, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. New members of the prestigious organization and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) Kimberly Rigby, Forest; Jessica Brown and Brianna Parkman, both of Lake; Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; and Amanda Lott, Lena; (second row, from left) Emilee Cox, Kelsey Cox and Maria Isabel, all of Forest; and Hannah McCurdy, Morton; and (back row, from left) Matthew Evans, Brady Power and Zach Gardner, all of Forest; Jake Loper, Sebastopol; Jessie Barrett, Lake; and Aaron Cooper, Morton. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany.

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WEEK OF March 10, 2013

ECCC PHOTO

These students from Scott County were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges during the annual spring semester ceremony held February 28, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. New members of the prestigious organization and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) Kimberly Rigby, Forest; Jessica Brown and Brianna Parkman, both of Lake; Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; and Amanda Lott, Lena; (second row, from left) Emilee Cox, Kelsey Cox and Maria Isabel, all of Forest; and Hannah McCurdy, Morton; and (back row, from left) Matthew Evans, Brady Power and Zach Gardner, all of Forest; Jake Loper, Sebastopol; Jessie Barrett, Lake; and Aaron Cooper, Morton. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany.

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WEEK OF March 16-2013

Inductees

These students from Winston County were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held February 28, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. New members of the prestigious organization and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) Hayden Fryery, Louisville; Lindsey McCool, Noxapater; Hayden Stokes, Nanih Waiya; and Brooke Massey, Noxapater; and (back row, from left) Nakia Miller, Abbie Smith and Sidney Hendrix, all of Louisville; and Martin Johnson, Nanih Waiya. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Biology instructor Curt Skipper and career-technical counselor Amanda Walton serve as Theta Xi advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 17, 2013

Bounds, Thames win ECCC pageant

Kelsey Bounds, center, of Newton and Drew Thames, left, of Philadelphia were chosen Most Beautiful and Most Handsome, respectively, at East Central Community College during the annual Beauty Pageant held Tuesday, Feb. 19 on the Decatur campus. At right is 2012 Most Beautiful Raychal Reed of Louisville who crowned the winner.

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WEEK OF March 17, 2013

ECCC's State SkillsUSA contest winners

These East Central Community College career-technical students received various honors at the State SkillsUSA Competition held recently in Jackson. Award winners include front, from left, Alan Chickaway of Conehatta, third place, Culinary Arts; Milenny Ferraras of Dalton, Ga., second, Food and Beverage Service; Leslie Tucker of Lake, second place, Cosmetology; Sam Gunn of Hickory, third place, Job Skills Demonstration A; and Brittany Smith of Decatur, first place, Promotional Bulletin Board; and back, Cory King of Philadelphia, third place, Welding; Wesley Clark of Meridian, first place, Collision Repair; Sarah Orr of Noxapater, first place, Promotional Bulletin Board; Ivory Weldon of Pulaski, third place, Architectural Drafting; and Wanda Harrison of Walnut Grove, first place, Promotional Bulletin Board. First-place winners qualify for the National SkillsUSA Contest scheduled June 23-29, 2013, in Kansas City, Missouri. (Submitted Photo)

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WEEK OF March 17, 2013

ECCC Phi Theta Kappa officers

These students serve as Phi Theta Kappa officers at East Central Community College in Decatur. Leaders of Theta Xi Chapter include, first row from left, Claire Griffin of Decatur, president; Holli Nutt of Morton, public relations chair; Axie Jones of Little Rock, fundraising chair; Leighanne Wright of Decatur, executive board member; and Andrew Hanna of Union, vice president of leadership; and in back, biology instructor Curt Skipper, adviser; Emily Marler of Morton, executive board member; Sandy Alexander of Little Rock, vice president of scholarship; Cain Prestage of Carthage, vice president of service; William Meruvia of Philadelphia, vice president of fellowship; and workforce education counselor Amanda Walton, adviser. Not pictured is Alex Weir of Philadelphia, executive board member.

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WEEK OF March 17, 2013

Neshoba County Phi Theta Kappa inductees

These students from Neshoba County were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held Feb. 28, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. New members of the prestigious organization and their respective hometowns include first row, from left, Erika Clark, Tiffany Dorman, Meghan McPhersen, Ashlyn Pullin and Emma Burton, all of Union; second row, Denzel Clemons and Zachary Peden, both of Philadelphia; and Jayohnnie Slaughter, Nathan Williams and Victoria Holsen, all of Union; and back row, Sam Lovorn, Philadelphia; Nathan Griffin, Union; Aderian Partain, Sebastopol; and Kennen Wahwasuck, Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 24, 2013

EC Sophomore Centralettes honored

These members of the East Central Community College Centralettes – the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band – were recognized during "Sophomore Appreciation Night" held Monday, Feb. 18 during the final home basketball games of the 2012-13 season. From left are Hannah Farmer of Newton County High School, Kendall Taylor of Central Academy in Macon and Lauren Daniels of Neshoba Central, who are shown with Ada Hillman, daughter of retiring Centralette coordinator Nichol Hillman who made the presentation in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Hillman was also recognized by the Centralettes for her seven years of service. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 24, 2013

Philly Harmony visits

Philly Harmony visited with Ms. Blaylock at ECCC and observed her rehearsals of both the concert choir and Ac'cents, the show choir. In back, from left, are Vicki Blaylock, Choral Director/Music Professor at ECCC, Latesha Shannon, Kaelin Gentry, Amber Townsend, Cameron Higgason, Kaishanna Young, Nohemi Velez, Shanagia Sims, Alandria Moore, Annaiese Burton, and Angela Boatner, Spanish/Choral from PHS. In front are Kedeejah Triplett, Mary Kathryn Larabee, Brownisha Clark, Randi Kelly, Paige Brown, Alexus Graham, Akia Amos, Jakeem Triplett and Keona Sanders.

ECCC begins 2013 concert series

East Central Community College's Band Department began its 2013 Spring Concert Series Thursday, March 7 with a performance by the Concert Band.

The concert began at 7 p.m. in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

Director of Bands Hunter Corhern said the 76-member group represents the college's entire five-county district (Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties) and also includes students from West Lauderdale High School, Puckett Attendance Center, Ridgeland High School, Brandon High School and Cleveland High School.

"All of our concerts are free to the public, and we invite and encourage all to attend," said Corhern.

The Concert Series continues with the ECCC "Night O' Percussion" at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 18 in Huff Auditorium.

It will feature the ECCC Percussion Ensemble; the ECCC "Night O' Jazz" at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 25, also in Huff Auditorium; and concludes with the Concert Band's "Pop" performance at 3:30 p.m. Monday, April 29 at the College Pavilion on North Campus.

For more information on EC's Band Department, contact director Hunter Corhern hcorhern@eccc.edu.

You may also call assistant director Ed Girling egirling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF March 24, 2013

Runners-up in 'Opening and Closing' competition

These students from the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center received second place honors in the "Opening and Closing Ceremonies" competition in the Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships for Region 3 held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Approximately 185 area students participated in the annual event. Seated, from left, are Savannah Alawine, Gabrielle Bates, Bridgette McFarland and Hannah Pilgrim; and standing are Rachel Rogers, Kimberly Talbert and Shea Tate. Also pictured is Wayne Eason, ECCC Director of Workforce Education. The winners advance to state competition scheduled Feb. 26-27 in Jackson. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 24, 2013

Job hunting

Lance Pruitt (left) of Newton and Tyler Alexander (center) of Little Rock are shown talking with Greg Walker, employee development coordinator for Hol-Mac Corporation, during the East Central Community College Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium on the Decatur campus. Pruitt and Alexander are students in the Precision Machining Technology Program at ECCC. Approximately 260 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.

EC photo

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WEEK OF March 24, 2013

Receives top honors

These students received top honors in the "Welding" competition in the Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships for Region 3 held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Approximately 185 area students participated in the annual event. From left are Michael Jones, first place, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center; Ethan Freeman, second, Wayne County Career-Technical Center; and James McLain, third, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. Also pictured is Wayne Eason, ECCC Director of Workforce Education. The winners advance to state competition scheduled Feb. 26-27 in Jackson. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 24, 203

ECCC state winners

East Central Community College's Theta Chi chapter of Phi Beta Lambda received top honors during the annual state conference held recently in Natchez. Theta Chi was recognized as the third largest chapter in attendance, and was named one of only two Gold Seal chapters in the state. Individual honors were presented to (front row, left to right) Timmie Wiggins of Little Rock, first place in small business management plan, third place in financial analysis and decision making and selected for Who's Who in PBL; Jessie Boatner of Philadelphia, first place in free enterprise project; Chelsea Gilmer of Philadelphia, first place in free enterprise project, third place in business presentation and selected for Who's Who in PBL; Yashica Ickmon of Lake, third place in business presentation and selected Mississippi's PBL vice president; Latoya Steele of Louisville, second place in sales presentation and fourth place in accounting analysis and decision making; and Cindy Burnside of Decatur, first place in local chapter annual business report and third place in business presentation; and (back row, left to right) Tanner Fortenberry of Union, first place in small business management plan and selected for Who's Who in PBL; Haleigh Graham of Sebastopol, first place in integrated marketing campaign and second place in accounting principles; Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, first place in small business management plan and third place in statistical analysis; Ashleigh Savage of Union, first place in free enterprise project and first place in integrated marketing campaign; Krissy Winstead of Union, first place in impromptu speaking and third place in marketing analysis and decision making; and Josh Bradley of Union, third place in networking concepts and fourth place in networking design. Not pictured are Tori McInnis of Union, second place in management analysis and decision making, third place in economic analysis and decision making and selected for Who's Who in PBL; and Gerren Issac of Philadelphia, fourth place in networking concepts and fourth place in networking design. First and second place winners advance to national competition scheduled in June in Anaheim, Calif. (EC Photo)

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 24, 2013

ECCC holds Honor Society induction ceremony

More than 135 students were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held February 28, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

Ovid Vickers, retired ECCC faculty instructor, was the keynote speaker. Also participating on the program were College President Dr. Billy Stewart, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, Theta Xi Executive Board member Emily Marler and Chapter Advisors Curt Skipper and Amanda Walton.

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany.

Inductees and their respective hometowns include the following:

BRANDON: Danette Alele Harris, Mary Anna Jefcoat and Amber Nichole McBroom;

CARTHAGE: Conor Neal Bell, Kristen Alise Chipley, Hanna Danielle Kemp, Kamaran Annette Malone, Ioshore Quisha May, Jennifer Lynn Moore, Alyssa Bailey Shelton, Aaron Davidson Shepard, Matthew Aaron Tucker, Kendall Wade Wilcher and George Caleb Woods;

CHUNKY: Taylor Nicole Gressett and Heather Michelle Johnson;

CRESTWOOD, KY: Zachary Patrick Killion;

DEKALB: Sydney Elaine Dawkins; Baucum, Nikki Lynn Cumberland, Savannah Marie Glover, Joseph Tyler Pigg, Caitlyn Michelle Sant, Stephanie Nicole Spence, Jesse Browning Vaughn and Jordan Miles Walker;

EL DORADO, AR: James Sawyer Williams;

ENTERPRISE: Samantha Nicole Gunn;

FLOWOOD: Daniel Jackson Myrick;

FOREST: Eliud Alvarez, Jessica Rolanda Brown, Emilee Anna Cox, Kelsey Beth Cox, Shawn Matthew Evans, Zachary Gardner, Maria Isabel Martinez, Brady Franklin Power and Kimberly Rae Rigby;

HICKORY: Haley Marie Chapman, Alexandria Marie Hollingworth, Emily Christine Jacome-Cluff, Alexandria Renee Meador, Felicia Danielle Robinson and Bryant Madison Williams;

JACKSON: Stephanie Lynnette Kittell;

LAKE: Jessie Robert Barrett and Brianna Lyndsay Parkman;

LAUDERDALE: Amanda Lynn Breland;

LAWRENCE: Nathaniel Adam Richardson;

LENA: Amanda Diane Lott, Katie Nicole Spears and Elizabeth Brooke Wilson;

LITTLE ROCK: Samantha Jewel Ellingburg, Jacob Scott Oliver and Tracy Rachelle White;

LONG BEACH: Blake Edward Dubuisson;

LOUIN: Emily Claire Gully and Jamie Brian Smith;

LOUISVILLE: Hayden Elizabeth Fryery, Laken Nicole Fulcher, Alexis Nan Hartness, Sidney Luoise Hendrix, Kaylin Nicole Hopkins, Teylor Elizabeth Martinez, Lindsey Dee McCool, Nakia Jena Miller, Hailey Jewell Myers, Morgan Kate Parkes, Abbie Troy Smith and Hayden Caroline Stokes;

MADDEN: Hannah Jean Smith;

MENDENHALL: Alana Joy Turner;

MERIDIAN: Lindsey Marie Beard, Jacobe' Dante Burrage, Kennedy Danielle Castleberry, Steven Maxwell Harmon, Bailey Amber Laird, Helen Claire Milling, Gregory Scott Mitchell, Matthew Alexander Morris, Nathan Lee Powell and Demondrae Ralpheal Stribling;

MORTON: Melissa K. Bailey, Claude Epting, Kara B. Johnson and Hannah Lea McCurdy;

NEWTON: Trevor Wayne Ayllon, Mikayla H. Carson, Christiana Renee Dawn Collins, Colt Makai Collins, Rayanne K. Craven, Ryan Daniel Godwin, Sara Delaney Ellisor, Timothy Alan [illegible], Morgan Elizabeth [illegible], Kimberly [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], Shane Smiley, Brandon Stephen St. Clair, Cassidy Maree Tasker and

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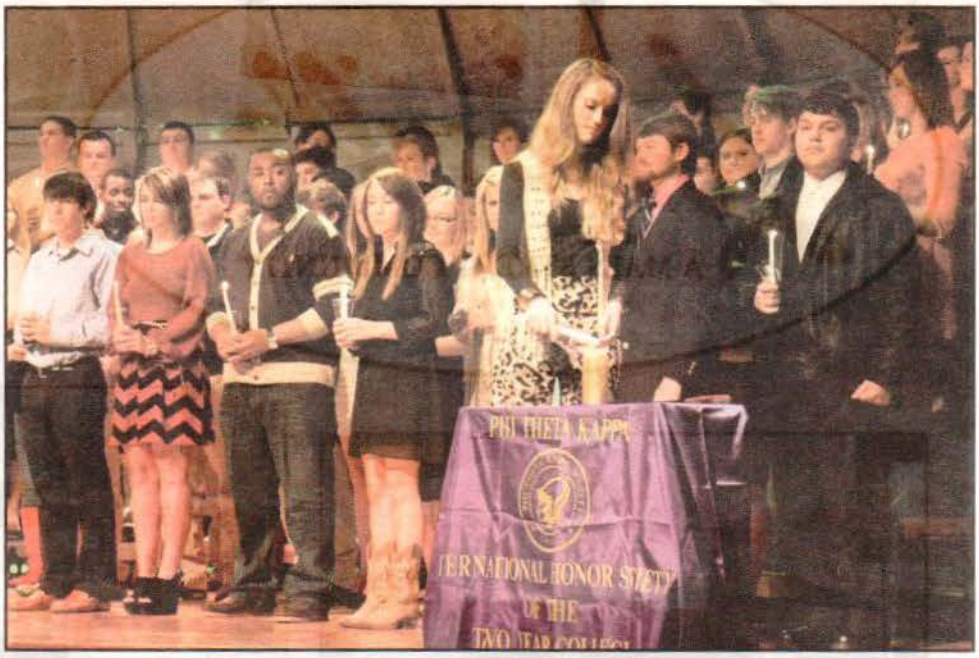

Paige Wall of Newton was among more than 135 students inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held February 28, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Ovid Vickers, retired ECCC faculty instructor, was the keynote speaker. Curt Skipper and Amanda Walton serve as chapter advisors. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany.

Megan Paige Wall;

NOXAPATER: Alanna Brooke Massey;

PELAHATCHIE: Aaron Bradley Cooper;

PHILADELPHIA: Miranda Michelle Clark, Greogry Denzel Clemons, Joshua Keith Gaines, DeShayna Lynette Hickman, Hannah Catherine Jones, Colt Colby Killen, Allie Carol Killens, Samuel Hays Lovorn, Zachary Craig Peden and Keenen Brice Wahwasuck;

PRESTON: Martin Mourice Johnson;

PULASKI: Joseph Tell Matuszewski;

SEBASTOPOL: Aderian Kendal Partain;

UNION: Emma Catherine Burton, Casey Jane Cherry, Erika Jordan Clark, Tiffany Grace Dorman, Glenda Karen Gardner, Nathan R. Griffin, Madison Brooke Herrington, Victoria Shawn Holsen, Tyler Reed Kilpatrick, Meghan L. McPherson, Ashlyn Leigh Pullin, Chelsea Grace Rigdon, Jayohnnie Leigh Slaughter, Hayley Brooke Stephens, Lucas Murphy Viverette, Nathan Dale Williams and Kathryn Joann Williamson;

WALNUT GROVE: Amber Lyn Pierce and Kristen Renee Smith; and

WEST BLOCTON, AL: Jacob Glen Bush.

WEEK OF March 31, 2013

ECCC Phi Beta Lambda members attend workshop

Shown above are members of East Central Community College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter who participated in an Etiquette Workshop held at Mississippi State University-Meridian Nov. 2. Three PBL advisers and 15 club members attended the workshop and completed training in Dinner Etiquette, Networking Skills and Dressing for Success. Pictured are front, from left, dviser Christy Ferguson (business technology instructor); Patricia Thweatt, Decatur; Yashica Ickom, Lake; Flossie Hayes, Forest; Toya Steele, Louisville; Chelsea Gilmer, Philadelphia; Latisha Johnson, Decatur; Sandra Diehel, Sebastopol; and advisers Stella Dickerson (computer technology instructor) and Judith Hurtt (business technology instructor); and back are Jared Jim, Choctaw; Delphine Edwards, Raleigh; Timmie Ivey, Little Rock; Yasmin Nicks, Lawrence; Jessie Boatner, Philadelphia; Demetria Davis, Newton; and Rachal Aburto, Morton.

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WEEK OF March 31, 2013

Ac'cents show choir presents concert

Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, presented their fall campus concert in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Music included hits by Adele, Lady Gaga, Martina McBride, Michael Buble', Earth, Wind and Fire and CeLo. Performers and their respective hometowns include (from left) Chandler Smith, Decatur; Krissy Winstead, Union; Tyler Gilmore, Sebastopol; Jayohonnie Slaughter, Union; Sam Lovorn, Philadelphia; Claire Griffin and Jeremy Carson, both of Decatur; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Turner Stevens, Carthage; Kara Miller, Decatur; Ryan Godwin, Newton; and Alex Weir, Philadelphia. Not pictured are sound technicians Jacob King of Sebastopol and Matthew Graham of Lake. The Ac'cents perform throughout the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, as well as various community evens and campus concerts.

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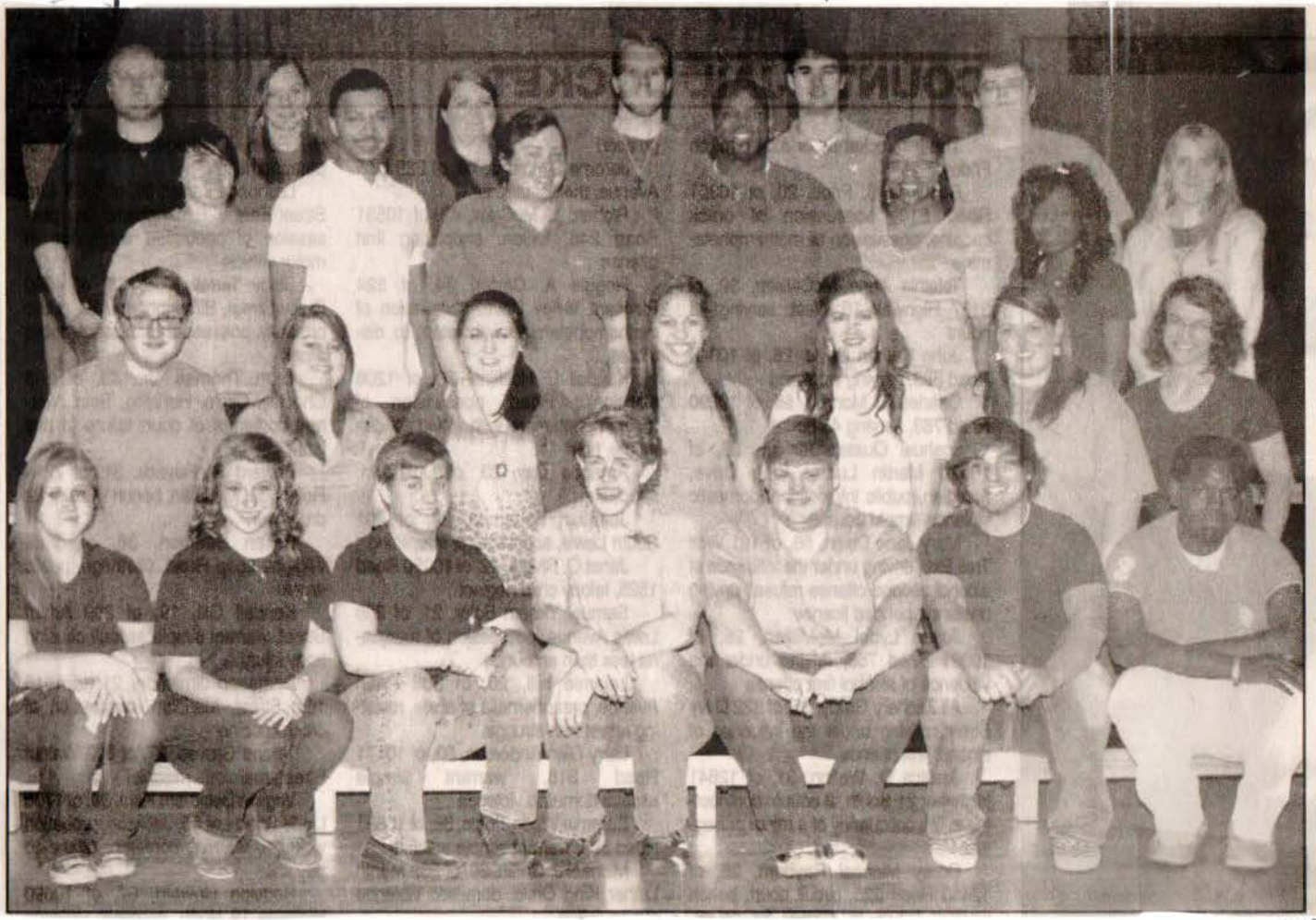

ECCC Spring Musical cast

Above are cast members for the East Central Community College Players' spring musical presentation of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat scheduled April 10-13, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. A matinee performance begins at 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 10 and evening presentations will be held at 7 p.m. April 11-13 (Thursday-Saturday). Cast members and their respective hometowns are first row, from left, Lizabeth Benton, Preston; Holli Nutt, Morton; Clint Walker (narrator), Newton; Sam Lovorn and Chandler Smith, both of Philadelphia; Ian Lanthrip, Sebastopol; and Charles Taylor, Philadelphia; second row, Matt Graham, Meridian; Delaney Kilgore, Hickory; Chelsey Smith, Brandon; Savannah Stuart-Dahl, Philadelphia; Claire Griffin (narrator), Decatur; Sharley Hardin, Forest; and Sara LaBue (narrator), Conehatta; third row, Danielle Shelley, Sebastopol; Drew Thames and Will Stokes, both of Philadelphia; Tadarian "Bo" Foster, Hickory; Aaliyah Cook, Carthage; Andrea McSwain, Decatur; and Bristol Buffington, El Paso, Texas; and fourth row, Colton Hurst, Hickory; Tara Gibson, and Georgia Doner, both of Bailey; Rob Parker and Hunter Brooks, both of Puckett; and Conor Bell, Carthage. Tickets are $5 for the matinee and $10 for the evening performances. To reserve tickets, please call the College Switchboard, 601-635-6215 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 215. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

ECCC Student Newspaper Staff Receives Awards

Award-Winning Newspaper Staff

Members of East Central Community College's newspaper staff display various awards presented at the O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 28, 2013 at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in Jackson. Pictured are Candice Stewart and Design Editor Holli Nutt, both of Morton; Editor Addreonna Seger of Newton, Jessica Barnett and Adviser Gennie Phillips, both of Forest. (EC Photo)

East Central Community College's student newspaper, The Tom-Tom, was among the top student newspapers in the state recognized during the 2013 O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 28, 2013 at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in Jackson.

East Central students earned 18 awards in the Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest in the Community and Junior College Division, including second place in the general excellence award, the top award granted for student newspapers in the community college division for the state.

The Tom-Tom also received two first place, seven additional second place, seven third place and two honorable mention awards in the competition. In the Better Newspaper Competition, members of The Tom-Tom staff earned the following awards:

· A first place finish for May 2012 graduate Rachel Ramirez of Forest, Best General Interest Column, and third place award, Best Sports Feature;

· A first place award for Eliud "Lulu" Alvarez of Forest, Best Sports Photo;

· Sophomore Jessica Barnett of Forest was recognized with a second place award for Spot or Investigative Package;

· A second place award for Sophomore Claire Griffin of Decatur, Best Cartoon;

· Freshman Madison Herrington of Union was recognized with a second place award for Best Sports Feature;

· A second place award for sophomore and The Tom-Tom editor Addreonna Seger of Newton, General Interest Column, and third place award, Best Editorial;

· Freshman Will Stokes of Philadelphia was recognized with a third place award for General Interest Column;

· A third place award for freshman Candice Stewart of Morton, Best Feature Photograph;

· May 2012 graduate Ashley Moore of Carthage was recognized with two third place awards for Best General News Story and Best Feature Story;

· An honorable mention award for May 2012 graduate Meghan McIntosh of Carthage, Best Feature Photograph.

· Claire Tadlock of Decatur received an honorable mention award for Best Feature Photograph; and

· The Tom-Tom staff also received two additional second place honors for Best Design and Best Front Page and a third place honor for Best Miscellaneous Advertisement.

The Tom-Tom is a student-led newspaper representative of the student body of East Central Community College in Decatur. The staff is led by Seger, editor; and Holli Nutt of Morton, design editor. ECCC Publications Coordinator Gennie Phillips of Forest serves as adviser.

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

photo by BETTY LITTLE

2013 Miss Morton Kara Beth Johnson

Kara Beth Johnson, a graduate of Morton High School and , was crowned 2013 Miss Morton at the 55th annual Miss Morton Pageant held last Saturday night at the Livingston Arts & Media Center at Roosevelt State Park. The new Miss Morton will receive a $3,760.00 scholarship from East Central Community College. She was crowned by 2012 Miss Morton Emily Marler. Kara Beth is a graduate of Morton High School and attends ECCC. She is the daughter of John and Sonda Johnson of Morton, and the granddaughter of Iola Johnson and the late James Russell Johnson of Morton, and Glenda Tarver of Brookhaven.

ECCC Collegians to Present Spring Concert

The campus of East Central Community College in Decatur will once again be rocking to the sounds of the Collegians who will present their spring concert at 8 p.m. Monday, April 29, 2013, in Huff Auditorium.

There is no charge for admission.

Selections include hits by Maroon 5, Carrie Underwood, Adele, Motley Crue and many more top artists.

Thomas W. Carson serves as director and also plays guitar in the popular group.

For more information, contact the ECCC Fine Arts Department, 601-635-6225 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 225.

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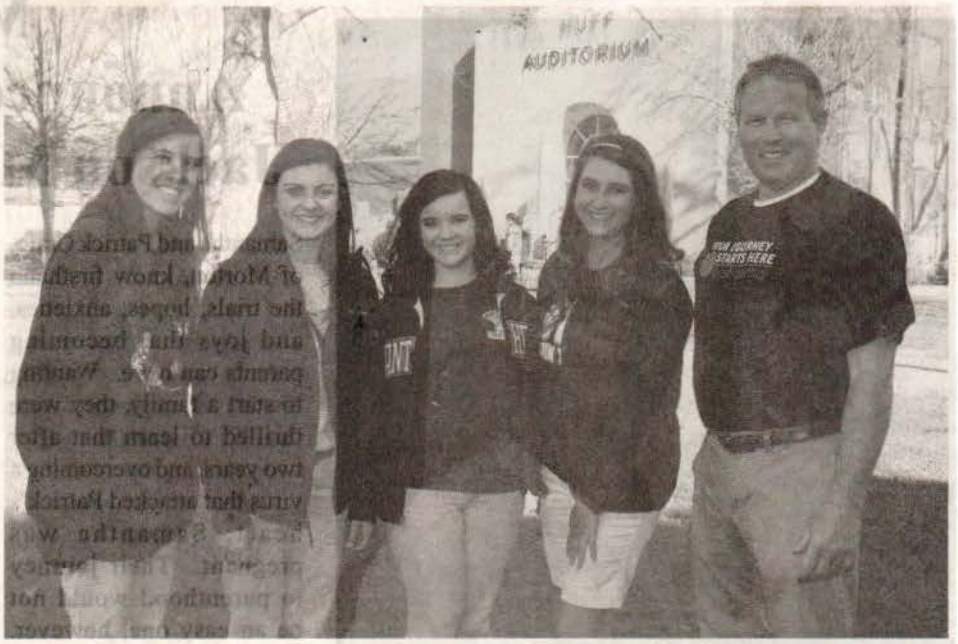
WEEK OF April 7, 2013



Morton Students Participate in ECCC Senior Days

Morton High School students (from left) Jessie Tagert, Kelsey Porter, Sarah Drew and Reagan Irby were among those attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. They are shown with ECCC academic counselor Michael Alexander. The day's activities included an information showcase held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, technical and health-related programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Warrior Cheerleaders and the Centralettes dance line. The event concluded with a complimentary lunch. For more information or to schedule a campus visit, contact Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6375. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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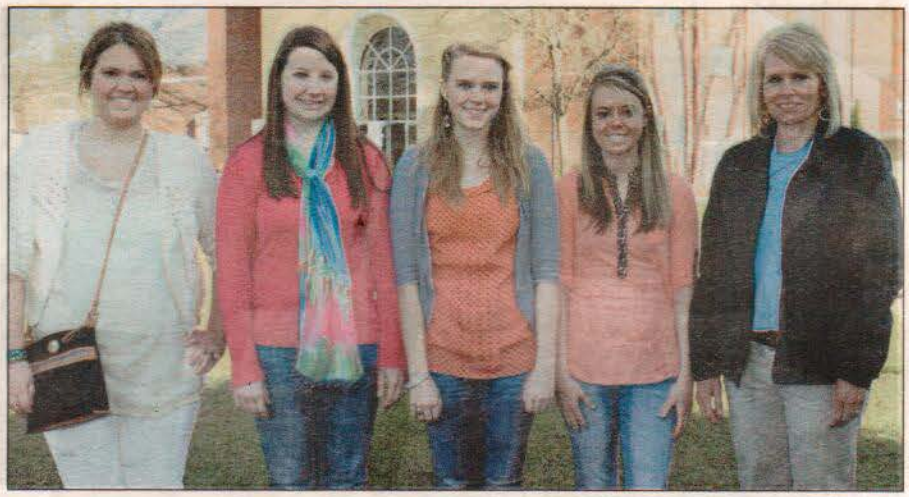
ECCC Senior Days



Winston Academy Students Participate in ECCC Senior Days

Winston Academy students (from left) Brittney Rhodes, Jenna Lovorn, Torie Quinn and Samantha Morgan were among those attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. They are shown with ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The day's activities included an information showcase held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, technical and health-related programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Warrior Cheerleaders and the Centralettes dance line. The event concluded with a complimentary lunch. For more information or to schedule a campus visit, contact Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6375. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo).

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

Noxapater at ECCC

Noxapater Students Attend ECCC Senior Days

Noxapater High School students (from left) Ashley Hill, Julie Childress and Rodney Wilmer were among those attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. They are shown with ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna during an information showcase held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, technical and health-related programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Warrior Cheerleaders and the Centralettes dance line. The event concluded with a complimentary lunch. For more information or to schedule a campus visit, contact Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6375. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

NW at ECCC

Nanih Waiya Students Attend ECCC Senior Days

Nanih Waiya High School students (from left) Ty Higginbotham, Zach Hanna, Colby Eaves, Megan Robinson and Warner Parkes were among those attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. They are shown during an information showcase held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, technical and health-related programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Warrior Cheerleaders and the Centralettes dance line. The event concluded with a complimentary lunch. For more information or to schedule a campus visit, contact Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6375. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo).

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

LAUDERDALE COUNTY PTK

Special to The Star

These students from Lauderdale County were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during a spring semester ceremony in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. New members of the prestigious organization and their respective hometowns include, from left, DeMondrae Stribling, Meridian; Amanda Breland, Lauderdale; Bailey Laird, Meridian; and Sydney Dawkins, Clarkdale. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Biology instructor Curt Skipper and career-technical counselor Amanda Walton serve as Theta Xi advisers.

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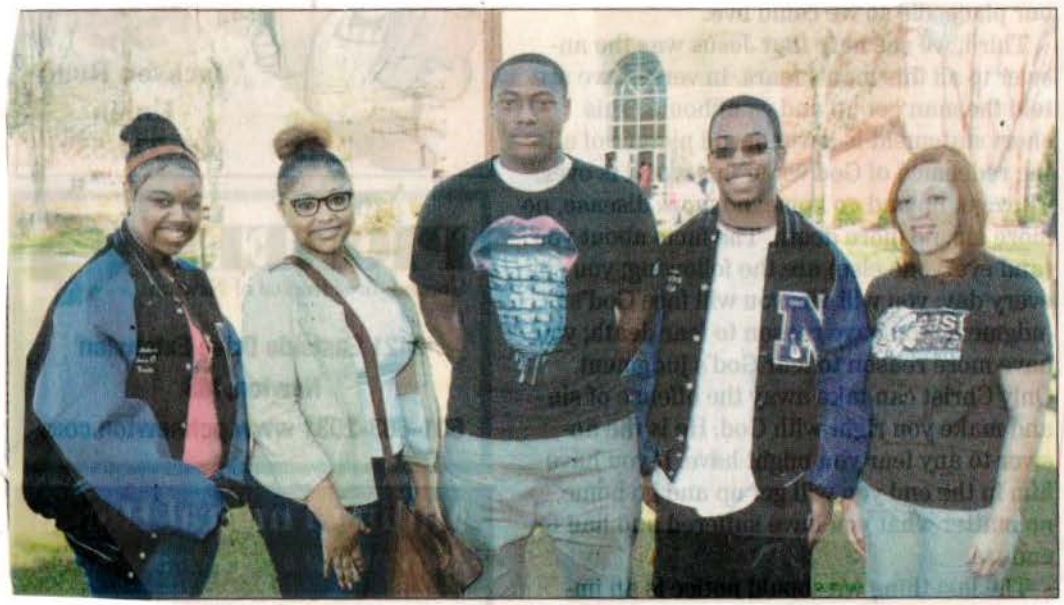
WEEK OF April 7, 2013



NHS students attend senior day at ECCC

Newton High School students Paris Evans, Trenea Pruitt, Tyler Pace and Glenn Bender were among those attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. They are shown with ECCC recruiter/Career Center Director Romonica Evans. The day's activities included an information showcase held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, technical and health-related programs.

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

Vocalists present recital April 17

East Central Community College music majors Jeremy Carson , Tadarin Foster, Rob Parker and Jessie Armstrong will present their sophomore recitals at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 17, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. Vocal music majors Carson and Foster are graduates of Newton County High School and have been awarded scholarships to continue their education at the University of Southern Mississippi. Carson's vocal presentation will include "Die Erlkonig" by Schubert, "Si mes vers avaient des ailes" by Hahn and "Che fiero costume" by Legrenzi. Foster will sing "Crucifixus from Messa Di Gloria" by Puccini, "The Vagabond from Songs of Travel" by Vaughn Williams and "Le Charme" by Chausson. Parker graduated from Puckett High School. He is also a vocal music major and plans to continue his education at Mississippi College. His selections include "Lydia" by Faure, "The King of Love My Sheperd Is" by Gounod and "Questa o quella" by Rigoletto. Armstrong is a graduate of West Lauderdale High School and has been awarded an instrumental scholarship to continue his education at the University of Southern Mississippi. He will be performing "Piece Symphonique" by Guilmant, "Gabriel's Oboe" by Morricone and "The Yellow Rose of Texas Variation" by Buckley.

ECCC announces April concerts

Several concerts are scheduled in April by various performing groups of the East Central Community College Band Department, announced Hunter Corhern, director of Bands.

The ECCC "Night of Percussion" will be held at 7 p.m. on April 18 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

In addition to performances by ECCC's Mallet Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble, percussion groups from Leake Central High School and Meridian High School will perform.

Door prizes will also be provided.

ECCC's "Night of Jazz" is scheduled at 7 p.m. on April 25 in Huff Auditorium. The College's Jazz Band will be the featured performers.

A "doubleheader" of music takes place on April 29 on the Decatur campus.

The Concert Band will perform an outdoor concert of movie scores and pop music at 3:30 p.m. at the Pavilion next to the walking track on North Campus.

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WEEK OF April 14, 2013

Philadelphia students at senior day

Philadelphia High School students, from left, Elaina White, Tabby Eakes and Haley Matthews were among those attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. They are shown with ECCC academic counselor Michael Alexander during an information showcase held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, technical and health-related programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Warrior Cheerleaders and the Centralettes dance line. The event concluded with a complimentary lunch. For more information or to schedule a campus visit, contact Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6375. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF April 14, 2013

East Central Band Department announces April concert schedule

Several concerts are scheduled in April 2013 by various performing groups of the East Central Community College Band Department, announced Hunter Corhern, Director of Bands.

The ECCC "Night of Percussion" will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 18 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

In addition to performances by ECCC's Mallet Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble, percussion groups from Leake Central High School and Meridian High School will perform.

Door prizes will also be provided.

ECCC's "Night of Jazz" is scheduled at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 25 in Huff Auditorium. The College's Jazz Band will be the featured performers.

A "doubleheader" of music takes place Monday, April 29 on the Decatur campus.

The Concert Band will perform an outdoor concert of movie scores and pop music at 3:30 p.m. at the Pavilion next to the walking track on North Campus.

Corhern encourages those planning to attend "to bring blankets, lawn chairs and a picnic basket and enjoy the music!"

Later that day the Collegians – EC's rock "n" roll band – will present their spring campus concert at 8 p.m. in Huff Auditorium. All events are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Hunter Corhern, 601-635-6123 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 123. His e-mail address is hcorhern@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF April 21, 2013

ECCC PHOTO

SEBASTOPOL STUDENTS ATTEND ECCC SENIOR DAYS

Sebastopol High School students were among those attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. From left are Harley Williams, Lacey Hedrick, Kayla Beauchamp, Taylor McPhail, Charlie Stephens and Hanna Williams. They are shown with ECCC academic counselor Michael Alexander during an information showcase held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, technical and health-related programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Warrior Cheerleaders and the Centralettes dance line. The event concluded with a complimentary lunch.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 21, 2013

Senior Days

Leake Academy students, from left, Anna Katherine Nowell, Will Myers, Hannah Peoples and Thomas Tubby were among those attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. They are shown with ECCC academic counselor Michael Alexander. The day's activities included an information showcase held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, technical and health-related programs. (EC Photo)

ECCC OFFERS 'HVAC ENHANCEMENT' CLASS IN PHILADELPHIA

Evening instruction in the maintenance and repair of HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) systems is being offered at the East Central Community College Productivity Enhancement Lab located at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center.

Classes will be held on eight consecutive Tuesdays beginning on May 7, 2013 from 6 to 9 p.m. Paul Evans, Advanced Skills Trainer, will serve as instructor. Cost of the class is $150. There is an additional $35 cost for the optional EPA testing offered at the end of class. For more information, contact Chris Clark, ECCC Workforce Development Coordinator, Phone 601-635-6245.

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Hanna, Griffin named to

April 28 2013

from school reports

East Central Community College sophomores Andrew Hanna of Union and Claire Griffin of Decatur were recently named on the 2013 All-Mississippi Academic Team and were recognized with other award-winners during special events held recently in Jackson.

The students were recognized at the State Capitol by the Mississippi Legislature and during a luncheon held at the Jackson Convention Complex. State Senator Terry C. Burton of Newton served as master of ceremonies.

The All-Mississippi Academic Team recognizes scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in the state's two-year colleges.

Hanna was one of 15 students named to the First Team and will receive a $1,000 scholarship. Recipients of the prestigious honor compete for placement on the national All-USA Community College Academic Team.

Hanna, a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average, will graduate this month from ECCC and plans to major in chemistry at Mississippi State University.

He was recently selected ECCC's HEADWAE Student of the Year and was honored with other students and college instructors at the State Capitol in February 2013.

The annual HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) was established by the Mississippi Legislature to honor the academically talented students and faculty members from each of the 36 public and private member institutions of the Mississippi Association of Colleges.

Hanna has received numerous other honors at EC, including the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Award, Frank M. Cross Corps. In addition, he serves as secretary of the President's Council.

He is also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and served as vice president his freshman year. He also holds membership in the Environmental Club.

Hanna's involvement in campus activities also includes participation in athletics. He is a two-year member of the Warrior tennis team and was on the men's basketball squad his freshman season.

He is a 2011 honor graduate of Newton County Academy, where he was valedictorian and chosen for the Hall of Fame. He was also selected STAR Student and was named to the WTOK-TV All Scholastic Sports Team. Other honors include selection as a Scholar Athlete and Citizenship Award recipient, in addition to numerous subject awards.

Hanna also held positions of leadership in several clubs and organizations and received numerous awards in basketball and tennis.

He is a longtime member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 29 of the Choctaw Area Council in Union and received the rank of Eagle Scout in 2007.

In addition, he is a member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur and serves as a Sunday school teacher.

Hanna is also involved in mission work and went to Thailand in the summer of 2012 as a part of a team supporting missionaries in Southeast Asia. He plans to return to the same area this summer and assist a missionary doctor in his clinics and teach English speaking classes.

He was one of 48 students selected from across the nation to attend the FBI National Academy Youth Leadership Program in 2008 at Quantico, Va. He was chosen president of the 11th Session of the FBINA Youth Leadership Program.

She has also received numerous honors while at EC.

She currently serves as president of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

Griffin also serves as sophomore class president and has served two years as co-president of the Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and provide assistance for various College events and activities. In addition, she has served the past two years as assistant editor of The Wo-He-Lo yearbook staff.

She is also a member of the Ac'cents Show Choir, Concert Choir, Collegians, Diamond Darlings, Environmental Club, Art Club, Baptist Student Union, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and President's Council and is an award-winning cartoonist on The Tom-Tom campus newspaper staff. She received second-place honors for her cartoons in the Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest in the Community and Junior College Division for two consecutive years.

She was recently selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

Griffin is a member of committees, including the Recruiting/Retention Task Force and Graphics Design Committee,

She is a recipient of numerous scholarships, including ACT, Progressive Club, Rotary Club, Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa, MTAG, Military VA, The Tom-Tom, Ac'cents, Concert Choir and Collegians awards.

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Chemistry Award and Secondary Education Award. He was also named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

He also holds various positions of leadership in several campus organizations.

He serves as vice president for leadership of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and is co-president of the Baptist Student Union and Warrior Hanna also participated in the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) program in 2009.

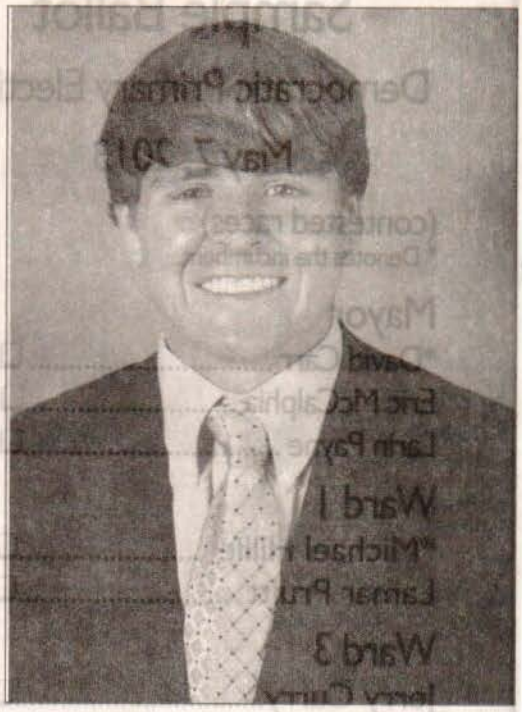
His parents are Rusty and Lanette Hanna of Union.

Griffin was named to the All-Mississippi Academic Second Team.

A President's List scholar, Griffin will graduate from ECCC in May 2013. She plans to return to ECCC in the fall and continue her education with a concentration in music.

All-Mississippi academic team

Griffin



Hanna

In addition, Griffin serves as a youth ministry intern and teaches Sunday school classes at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church.

She is a 2011 honor graduate of Newton County High School, where she received several honors and was involved in numerous activities.

She served as Beta Club president and was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Future Business Leaders of America, Shine Club, Vivace' show choir and yearbook staff.

Students named to the All-Mississippi Academic Team compete for placement on the national All-USA Community College Academic Team, sponsored by Follett Higher Education Group, presented by USA Today and additional support provided by the American Association of Community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa.

Twenty students named to the national All-USA Academic Team will be featured in the April 23 issue of USA Today and each student will receive a $2,500 scholarship.

This year, more than 1,800 nominations were received for the All-USA Community College Academic Team competition.

Mississippi ranks in the top six states in the nation having students named to the All-USA Community College Academic Team.

The All-Mississippi Academic Team program is coordinated by The Clarion-Ledger, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges and the Mississippi Community College Board.

WEEK OF April 28, 2013

Ac'cents Show Choir to Present Concert May 2

Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, will present their fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 2, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. This year's music includes "Some Nights" by f.u.n., "Boogie Shoes" by KC and the Sunshine Band, "God Gave Me You" made popular by Blake Shelton, "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" by Diana Ross and Lady Gaga's "Edge of Glory." Performers and their respective hometowns include (from left) Chandler Smith, Philadelphia; Krissy Winstead, Union; Tyler Gilmore, Sebastopol; Jayohonnie Slaughter, Union; Sam Lovorn, Philadelphia; Claire Griffin and Jeremy Carson, both of Decatur; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Turner Stevens, Carthage; Kara Miller, Decatur; Ryan Godwin, Newton; and Alex Weir, Philadelphia. Not pictured are sound technicians Jacob King of Sebastopol and Matthew Graham of Lake. The Ac'cents perform throughout the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, at various community evens and concerts. For more information contact director Vicki Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or e-mail vblaylock@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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East Central Community College graduates line up Saturday

From school reports

More than 416 graduates are scheduled to receive diplomas Saturday, May 11, when East Central Community College holds its 84th commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2012 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction.

Those participating in the program include graduating sophomores Cain Prestage of Carthage, who will give the invocation; Andrew Hanna of Union, commencement speaker; and Claire Griffin of Decatur, benediction. Griffin, Sandy Alexander of Little Rock, Robin Coker of Newton and Alex Weir of Philadelphia will present the musical selection "When You Believe."

Houston will present candidates for graduation and college president Billy W. Stewart will award degrees and certificates to the following:

Candidates for May graduation from this area include:

Chunky: Brandon Lee Davis; Collinsville: Brandy Necole Talbert; Conehatta: Alan Chickaway, Jr., Jessica Coleman, Darin Hillman, Courtney Johnson, Lequita A. King, LeAndrea S. Morris, Kimberly Renae Round and Merida Lynn Stephens; Decatur: Donald Vernon Babson, Jon'Marie Baucum, Shellandra Ra-chel Bogan, Cindy Boone Burnside, Jeremy Alexander Carson, Kimberly E. Eshee, Robert Kelly Espey III, Hannah Ruby Farmer, Xzavier Franklin, Joseph M. Freeman, Tyler Graham, Melissa Claire Griffin, Tiana Lynn Grover, James Stewart Henry, Alexander J. Lee, Keena J. Louis, Kenneth L. Massey, Avery K. Morgan, Grand Jerrell Oats, Brittany J. Smith, Kathrin Smith, Heather Sprague, Adrienne Tadlock and Miriam P. Williams; Hickory: Benjamin D. Avera, Obrian S. Broach, Blake Austin Cochran, Julien Laurent Gillis and Aaron Blake Rose; Lake: Karley Mitchell Allen, Casey Shea Bryant, Clarence E. Creel, Tiffany Chif'von Gardner, Jacob Gibbs, Pheanice Hamm-Brown, Azizi J. Hunt, Yashica T. Ickom, Shelby L. Parkman and Meagan N. Reid; Lawrence: Dominique L. Butler, Jelisa D. Hillie, Arlene Evans McClendon, Nathaniel Adam Richardson and Tiffany Nicole Watkins; Little Rock: Sandra E. Alexander, Tyler Alexander, William A. Cress, Kristen Linnea Hawks, Travis Roebuck and Timmie Wiggins; Newton: Athea Nichelle' Bender, Miranda N. Bender, Judson Gary Bounds, Sidney J. Broach, Robin R. Coker, Jeremy Andrew Gambrell, Ellen Joann Gibbs, Nikisha R. Gibson, Oliver J. Hillie, Jr., Areaun Marie Marquette Leverette, Kimberly Rayshale Lindsey, Aristotle S. Love, Eunice Raynita McLaurin, Marquita McLaurin, Julie Kathryn Myers, Lance Lorenzo Pruitt, Courtney Nicole Pugh, Lacrystal April Rhynes, Shaquanda Aviance Robinson, Monica Lynn Russell, Addreonna M. Seger, Javossiya L. Walker and Qualyn Watts; Union: Diane Rea Andrews, Robert Baker, Ashley Briana Barnett, James Milton Barnett, Darlene Beckham, Jesse Scott Belk, Brittany Bobo, Ashley Teshai Campbell, Jamie Lee Elliott, Reneisha Evans, Tanner J. Fortenberry, Amanda June Freeman, Tyler Jennings Gilmore, Jessica Haleigh Graham, Andrew T. Hanna, Anna Cameron Himebrook, Tyler Reed Kilpatrick, Dana Loraine McKee, Misty Poole McLaurin, Ashleigh Savage and Jill Warren.

More than 416 graduates are scheduled to receive diplomas May 11 when East Cen Community College holds its 84th commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Nesh County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Graduates participating in the program include (f left) Alex Weir of Philadelphia, Claire Griffin of Decatur, Cain Prestage of Carth Sandy Alexander of Little Rock, Andrew Hanna of Union and Robin Coker of Newt

Aug. '12 graduates

Chunky: Tamila G. Godwin; Conehatta: Deaundrea Johnson; Hickory: Joseph P. Lawson; Lake: Allison Taylor McDaniel, Devyn Kendra Hughes, India Gilbert and Sannitara MeChelle Carr; Lawrence: Lynford Seibel; Newton: Anneye Davidson, Hailey Dunavant, Seth Therrien and Shonda Johnson.

Dec. '12 graduates

Chunky: Jake Alexander Cain and Terri Lynn Johnson; Conehatta: Demetra Gail Stephens, Jenisa D Tubby and Kelsi Renee ley; Decatur: Erika Buc and Tamika R. Ande Lake Corey Dalton Kelly brachia Marquise Ken and Meagan Reid; Rock: Emily M. Hansforc Jessica Lynne Harr Union: Brittany Mallory, Hall, Jasmin K'nisha H and Shanita S. Jackson

WEEK OF May 8 2013

Displaying their international and regional awards are East Central Community College's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Theta Xi chapter officers and sponsors. The chapter was awarded the International Distinguished Honors in Action Theme Award. Regionally, the chapter was recognized as a Five-Star Chapter, Top Ten Most Distinguished Chapter and received the Distinguished Honors in Action Theme Award. Pictured are Cain Prestage of Carthage, vice president of service; Emily Marler of Morton, executive board member; Claire Griffin of Decatur, president; Andrew Hanna of Union, vice president of leadership; and co-sponsors Amanda Walton and Curt Skipper. (EC PHOTO)

ECCC Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Receives International, Regional Awards

East Central Community College in Decatur has received an international honor by Phi Theta Kappa, the academic honor society for community colleges.

During the Phi Theta Kappa 95th International Convention in San Jose, Calif. ECCC's Theta Xi chapter earned the International Distinguished Honors in Action Theme Award.

"Our Phi Theta Kappa students have worked extremely hard this year in the classroom, in the community, and on campus," said ECCC's PTK Theta Xi Chapter co-advisor Amanda Walton. "They have worked with other clubs and organizations to raise money to upgrade technology in our classrooms. Their efforts and achievements are to be commended. They have shown tremendous leadership skills this year, and we are proud of everything they have accomplished."

Theta Xi was

Contradictions

by Pastor Luis Cartagena

Since man was created, humanity, after being disobedient to the Father, has been falling in contradictions. In spite of the fact that "God created man in his own image", the world is increasing itself in those failures and many church people are also included in the group. The main reason is that humans have a strong tendency to please those who have power and not to please God. Worldwide cultural values are definitely changing toward living with

is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 10:31-33 ESV) Whoever makes ostentation of power approving laws in opposition to God's will falls in contradiction if he believes in Christ. It is the reason why people understand who Jesus Christ is but are not living faithfully and fall in hypocrisy. "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the

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a different perspective and good things are ignored or deleted. Many people move God from His first place to a secondary place and, of course after this unaccountable and unconscious decision, then come serious spiritual warfare. "Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believe in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God." (John 12:42-43 ESV)

We are a Christian nation but it is evident that most of the laws are done with political criteria and sometimes according to the created interests of a few. Nobody needs to be highly educated to acknowledge that Christ's teachings are ignored in the spirit of most laws. There is a historical contradiction in our behavior when we know that humans are the greatest creation of God and we don't worship and praise Him. "Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly I say to you, they have received their reward." (Matthew 6:5 ESV) The hypocrite has a stony heart that impedes them from loving others and they follow people who they think can give them something. In fact, they will never consider the needy, the sick or the weak. They don't know that God doesn't make any exceptions.

The same attitude that the Sadducees and Pharisees had with Christ, we can see in some people today that knowing that Jesus is the Messiah, they prefer to walk in their privileges rather than to lose their comfortable way of life because God is not the most important thing in their contradictory lives.

Before any situation we should ask ourselves, what would Jesus do in this case? Instead of what benefit will I get from it? Pleasing the world comes at a price for our spirits, and every believer needs to know that God is not in the mundane life, because we can't serve the Lord and the darkness at the same time.

May God bless you.

also recognized at the Regional Hallmark Awards for the Mississippi/Louisiana region, held at Northeast Mississippi Community College, receiving the Five-Star Chapter status based on the number and type of activities undertaken by the chapter. To maintain its Five-Star status, the Theta Xi must maintain its event schedule and student participation. Twenty-two of the 48 chapters in the PTK's Mississippi/Louisiana region earned Five Star status for 2013.

In addition to the Five-Star ranking, the Theta Xi chapter was also recognized as a Top Ten Most Distinguished Chapter and received the Distinguished Honors in Action Theme Award. Theta Xi Officer Cain Prestage of Carthage was named to the Order of the Golden Key.

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WEEK OF May 8, 2013

Signs with ECCC

HS Senior, Drum Major Sarah Hall signed with the East Central Community College Wall-O-Sound on May 6. In back, from left, are Principal Jason Gentry, Associate Band Director Eric Perry, ECCC Band Director Hunter Corhern and Athletic Director Johnny Daves. In front are Father, Keith Hall, Sarah Hall, Mother, Elizabeth Hall Sarah signed to be the ECCC Wall O Sound Drum Major.

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WEEK OF May 12, 2013

EC LPN STUDENTS ATTEND STATE CONVENTION

These licensed practical nursing students at East Central Community College in Decatur attended the Mississippi LPN Association's Annual Convention and Educational Conference held in Biloxi. Kneeling from left are Betty Tucker, Morton; Kimberly Kendrick, Carthage; Brianna Spears and Lacey Johnson, both of Philadelphia; and Jackie Hogue, Walnut Grove; (second row, from left) Paula Bounds, Rose Hill; Sharonnie Barney, Bailey; Brittany Pinter, Forest; Allyson Nichols, Morton; Summer Fortenberry, Philadelphia; Latoria Boler, Carthage; and Shandreka Hunt, Preston; and (third row, from left) Amber Rhodes, Carthage; Susan Jackson, Union; Callie Craig, Carthage; Conashay Headd, Louisville; Michele Parker, Lake; and Kenisha Carter, Louisville. Not pictured is Brooklyn Boyette of Noxapater.

Special to The Star

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Hanna addresses fellow ECCC graduates

Special to The Star

Addressing his fellow graduates at East Central Community College's 84th Commencement last Saturday at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia, Andrew Hanna of Union said although he saw a variety of people among his classmates, the obvious bond they shared is that they are all students.

"That means we all go to class and education is the primary aim of the classroom. We may study various subjects, but every class should teach us something about life," Hanna said.

Hanna began his remarks by thanking those who had influenced his education.

"Dr. Stewart, Dr. Houston, and all of the administration, thank you for creating an environment where both faculty and students can thrive. Instructors are the lifeblood of any institution," he said. "A school is only as good as its teachers make it. Teachers, we thank you for making East Central a great institution.

"I had the privilege of working on campus two summers at East Central. The first summer was spent working with maintenance. I ran a weed-eater, painted, and shoveled more mulch than I care to remember. These people keep our college running and deserve recognition and gratitude.

"The second summer, I worked in admissions. I filed so many papers that I learned how to say the alphabet backwards. The behind the scenes work of the professional staff at East Central lays the foundation for all the other employees to build on. Thank you for all of the long hours you give to our school.

"I would also like to thank our cafeteria workers. They see us at our best and our worst, yet continue to serve day in and day out. Lastly, friends and family, you are the true reason the graduating class of 2013 is here today. You picked us up when we fell, listened to us whine, and told us to keep going when we thought we could go no more. Thank you."

Hanna, an ECCC Hall of Fame member, continued by sharing some of the life lessons he has learned during the last semester.

"Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m., I dragged myself to physics....As I began to study the basic laws of physics, I noticed that I had many misconceptions. Some things do not work like you would expect them to....I had to rework my thinking and rid myself of common misconceptions. Life is the same way. We often assume people are a certain way without actually taking the time to observe and understand. College has helped me understand people in a new way."

He said chemistry taught him about the importance of the "little things." Hanna then spoke of his computer technology class and gave an example of how his textbook printed for the 2012-13 term was already out of date and how we must embrace constant change.

Hanna then shared how his class in New Testament Survey assured him that in an ever-changing world there are truths that always remain.

His final illustration, learned in chemistry and physics laboratory classes, dealt with the unexpected things of life.

"You would think that all the classroom discussion and study would translate into a perfect lab experience, but interesting things always happen when the real world comes into play. You can understand every concept, follow every step to the letter, and double-check every calculation. Something will still go wrong."

He concluded his remarks with the following challenge to his fellow graduates: "...The people at East Central invested in your life and taught you something. Do that for another person. Share what you have learned because the world needs people who point out common misconceptions. The world also needs people who care about the little things that really matter. Remember that things change, but some things will never change. Hold on to those things that never change. Always be willing to learn, because you do not know everything. Finally, acknowledge that life is incredibly messy. Roll with the punches and learn from your mistakes."

In addition to Hanna, other graduating sophomores participating in the commencement program were Cain Prestage of Carthage, invocation; and Claire Griffin of Decatur, benediction. Griffin, Sandy Alexander of Little Rock, Robin Coker of Newton and Alex Weir of Philadelphia performed the musical selection "When You Believe."

College President Dr. Billy W. Stewart will awarded degrees and certificates to more than 400 graduates. Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for Instruction, presented candidates.

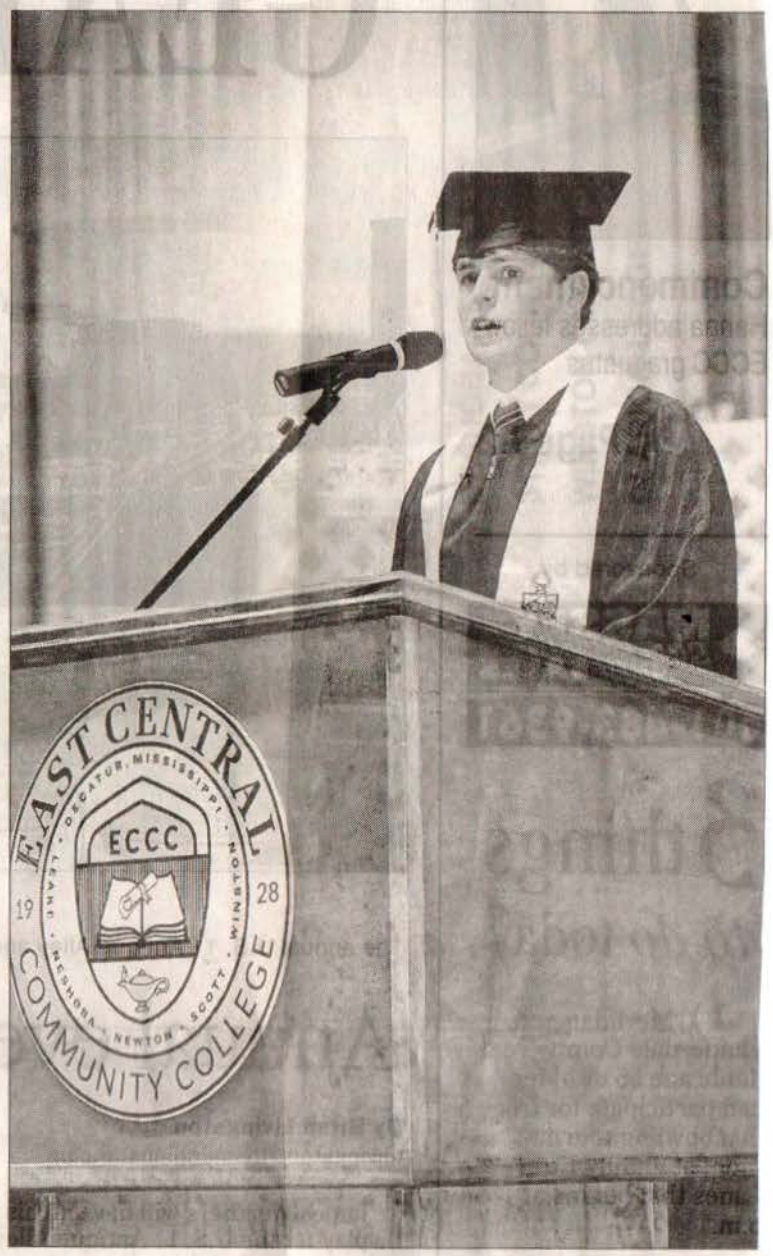

Photo courtesy of East Central Community College

Andrew Hanna of Union encouraged fellow East Central Community College graduates to "invest in and share with others" during his remarks at the college's 84th Commencement held Saturday, May 11, 2013, at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

WEEK OF May 15, 2013

Marler named to HOF

Morton native receives ECCC highest honor

DECATUR — Recipients of Hall of Fame and other honors were recognized during the annual Awards Day program held May 2, at East Central Community College.

Selection to the Hall of Fame is considered the highest honor a student can receive at the College, according to Dr. Billy Stewart, ECCC president, who presented the awards.

"To be considered for the prestigious honor," Dr. Stewart said, "students must demonstrate exemplary character, superior scholarship, worthy leadership and contribute to the betterment of East Central Community College."

Hall of Fame inductees for 2013 include Hannah Farmer and Claire Griffin, both of Decatur; LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia, Andrew Hanna of Union, ***Emily Marler of Morton*** and Cain Prestage of Carthage.

Marler

Emily Marler is a 2011 graduate of Morton High School and the daughter of Robert and Kathy Marler of Morton.

A President's List scholar and education major, she serves as an officer of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and secretary of the Astronomy club. She is also a member of the Baptist Student Union, Diamond Darlings, Environmental Club, Warrior Corps, Student Education Association and the Wo-He-Lo yearbook and *The Tom-Tom* newspaper staffs.

Marler was selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges and was chosen a Beauty in the College's 2012-13 Beauty and Beau Pageant.

She received numerous scholarships at ECCC including the ACT, Achievement Recognition, Presidential and Robert Moody, Jr.

Those nominating her wrote, "Emily Marler is one of our best. She is active in an impressive number of campus activities and organizations and still makes the President's List.

She serves in leadership positions in more than one campus organization. She is committed to helping others as is shown by her serving as a youth intern in her church and by going on a mission trip to Kenya last summer and by participating in Warrior Corps, as a Diamond Darling and in Phi Theta Kappa service activities.

She is well liked by her peers and our instructors and staff here at ECCC. She is a very nice Christian young woman. She was selected Miss Morton in 2012 and was Miss Morton High School and Homecoming Queen during her year as a high school senior."

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2013 hall of fame

East Central Community College recently announced inductees to the 2013 Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the college. They include (from left) Claire Griffin, Andrew Hanna, Emily Marler, Cain Prestage Hannah Farmer and LaJoya Griffin.

Morris of Carthage, East Central Environmental Club; Keith Phillips of Carthage and Andrea McSwain of Decatur, co-recipients, Gospel Choir; Claire Griffin of Decatur, ECCC Players; Andrew Hanna of Union, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry; Matthew Evans of Forest, S. Lebrun Hutchison; Hunter Fortenberry of Union, freshman mathematics; Ethan Pendergrass of Philadelphia, sophomore mathematics; Latoya Steele of Meridian, Chelsea Gilmer of Philadelphia and Ashleigh Savage of Union, co-recipients, Mississippi Business Education Association; Nathan Powell of Meridian, Dr. Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership; Tiffany Dorman of Union, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education and Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; McGee Ledbetter of Columbus and Erin Thornton of Walnut Grove, Roy Pete Awards for Soccer; Morgan Parkes of Louisville, secondary education; Addreonna Seger of Newton, The Tom-Tom; and Rayanne Craven of Newton, Lucille Wood Scholarship.

Alumni Memorial Awards were presented to Andrew Hanna of Union, Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics and Billy Wayne Baucum Secondary Education; Emily Lucy of Newton, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontraditional Education; Hillary Williams of Philadephia, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education; Addreonna Seger of Newton, Alatha Chaney English; Judson Bounds of Newton, W. A. Coursey, Jr., Engineering; Zachary Killion of Crestwood, KY, Danny Ray Killens Engineering; Jessie Boatner of Philadelphia, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; Andrew Hanna, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; Jessie Barret of Lake, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; Darius Beavers of Stringer, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; Eden McGee of Philadelphia, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Paul Kirkman of Ralph, AL, Andrew F. Webb Football; T.J. Leatherwood, Howard Sessums Men's Basketball; Reneisha Evans of Union, Earline Wood Women's Basketball; and Meghan Johnson of Lena, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services Award.

Faculty Memorial Awards were presented to Hannah McCurdy of Morton, Aaron R. Davis, Trevor Ayllon of Newton, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood; Terrence Steele and Caleb McKee, both of Philadelphia, Jamie Clark Memorial Award for Baseball; Caleb McKee, J. Wallace Bedwell Business; Felica Robinson of Hickory, Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry; Chandler Smith of Philadelphia, Robert G. Fick; Jacob Oliver of Little Rock, Shelby L. Harris; Jessica Barnett of Forest and Erin Wooten of Carthage, co-recipients of the Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo; Joseph Aulds of Decatur, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering; Ivory Weldon of Pulaski, O.L. Newell Drafting; Cindy Burnside of Decatur, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology; Allie Killens of Philadelphia, Leon Eubanks KALJYC-Peers; Kacey Smiley and Tracie Buckley, both of Newton, co-recipients of the L.B. Simmons History; Felica Robinson of Hickory, General William Patrick Wilson General Academic Scholarship; and Aderian Partain of Union, Thomas W. Thrash.

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ECCC announces

From school reports

Recipients of Hall of Fame and other honors were recognized during the annual Awards Day program held May 2 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Selection to the Hall of Fame is considered the highest honor a student can receive at the College, according to Billy Stewart, ECCC president, who presented the awards.

Hall of Fame inductees for 2013 include Hannah Farmer and Claire Griffin, both of Decatur; LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia; Andrew Hanna of Union; Emily Marler of Morton; and Cain Prestage of Carthage.

Hannah Farmer is a 2011 graduate of Newton County High School and is the daughter of Jim and Denise Farmer of Decatur.

A President's List scholar and business major, she serves as vice president of the Student Body Association and captain of the Centralettes, the dance line of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band. She also served as vice president of her freshman class.

She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Warrior Corps, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, Astronomy Club and Diamond Darlings.

In addition, she was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges and was chosen a sophomore Homecoming maid and freshman class favorite.

Farmer received numerous scholarships at ECCC including Valedictorian, ACT, Centralettes, Jack & Mary Jo White Scholarship and the Classes of 1956, 1957, & 1958 Scholarship.

Claire Griffin is a 2011 graduate of Newton County High School and is the daughter of Charlotte Griffin of Decatur and Scott Griffin of Seattle, WA.

and was selected Miss ECCC and Maid of Honor at the 2012 ECCC Homecoming.

She was named Lady Warrior Softball's Best Base Runner for 2011-12 and represented ECCC. during Legislative Day at the State Capitol.

Griffin received numerous scholarships at ECCC including the Jacob Stovall Scholarship, Lady Warrior Softball and ACT.

Andrew Hanna is a 2011 graduate of Newton County Academy and is the son of Rusty and Lanette Hanna of Union.

A President's List Scholar and chemistry major, Hanna was selected to the Phi Theta Kappa All-Mississippi Academic First Team, was named 2013 HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence program) Student.

In addition, he was awarded the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Award, Frank M. Cross Chemistry Award and Secondary Education Award.

Hanna serves as vice president for leadership of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and is co-president of the Baptist Student Union and Warrior Corps. In addition, he serves as secretary of the President's Council and is a Men's Bible Study leader for the BSU.

He is also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and served as vice president his freshman year. He is a member of the Environmental Club, participated on the Warrior basketball team his freshman year and has been a two-year member on the Warrior tennis team.

Emily Marler is a 2011 graduate of Morton High School and the daughter of Robert and Kathy Marler of Morton.

Cain Prestage is 2011 graduate of Leake Academy and the son of DeWayne and Beverly Prestage of Carthage.

A President's List scholar and liberal arts major, she serves as president of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and the sophomore class, and is co-president of Warrior Corps.

She serves as assistant editor for the Wo-He-Lo yearbook and cartoonist for The Tom-Tom newspaper, where she has won consecutive second place state awards for her cartoons.

Griffin is also a member of the Ac'cents Show Choir, Concert Choir, Collegians rock and roll band, Diamond Darlings, Art Club, EC Players, Baptist Student Union, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and President's Council. She was a member of the Centralettes Dance team for the Wall O' Sound Marching band her freshman year.

In addition, Griffin was selected to serve on the College's Retention Task Force and Graphic Design committees.

She was selected to the Phi Theta Kappa All Mississippi Academic Second Team and to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges.

Griffin received numerous scholarships at ECCC including Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa, The Tom-Tom, Ac'cents, Concert Choir, Collegians and ACT.

LaJoya Griffin is a 2011 graduate of Philadelphia High School and the daughter of Ken and Juliet Griffin of Philadelphia.

A President's List scholar and liberal arts major, Griffin serves as team captain of the Lady Warrior softball team and treasurer of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Warrior Corps, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, Phi Beta Lambda, Wo-He-Lo staff and Student Athletic Advisory Committee. She is also a member of the Neshoba Youth Coalition.

In addition, she was named to Who's Who Among

Additional honors presented during Awards Day include the following:

Career award recipients include Claude Epting of Morton and Demondrae Stribling of Meridian, co-recipients of residential carpentry; Dagan Elliot of Philadelphia and Jessy Harrison of Little Rock, co-recipients, cosmetology; Corey King of Philadelphia and Justin Nutt of Morton, co-recipients, welding and cutting "Taylor Cup;" and Justin Nutt of Morton, "Career Student of the Year."

Technical awards were presented to Wesley Clark of Meridian, collision repair technology; Adam Richardson of Lawrence, automotive technology; Sarah Orr of Noxapater, early childhood education; Amanda Lott of Lena, computer technology; Seth Irons of Philadelphia, electrical technology; Rob Baker of Union, heating & air conditioning technology; Pheanice Hamm-Brown of Lake, culinary arts; Sabrena Andrews of Meridian, hotel and restaurant management technology; Lance Pruitt of Newton, manufacturing and machining technology; Gerren Isaac of Philadelphia, network support technology; and Ivory Weldon of Pulaski, "Technical Student of the Year."

Recipients of healthcare education awards include Leah Johnson of Louisville, Associate Degree Nursing Outstanding Achievement; Betty Tucker of Morton, practical nursing; Lisa Maria Collins, paramedic technology; and Ashley Barnett, recipient of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation Scholarship.

Those receiving special awards were Judson Bounds of Newton, citizenship; Bryant Williams of Hickory, Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa, Claire Griffin of Decatur, PTK Presidential Gavel; Aquill Baynard of Houston, TX, Anthony Coleman Men's Basketball; Holli Nutt, ECCC Astronomy Club;

WEEK OF May 15, 2013

Neshoba Central students at ECCC senior day

Neshoba Central High School students, from left, Logan Boatner, J.T. Holley, Thomas McCool, Haley Moore and Leah Ferguson were among those attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. They are shown with ECCC academic counselor Michael Alexander. The day's activities included an information showcase held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, technical and health-related programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Warrior Cheerleaders and the Centralettes dance line. The event concluded with a complimentary lunch. For more information or to schedule a campus visit, contact Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6375. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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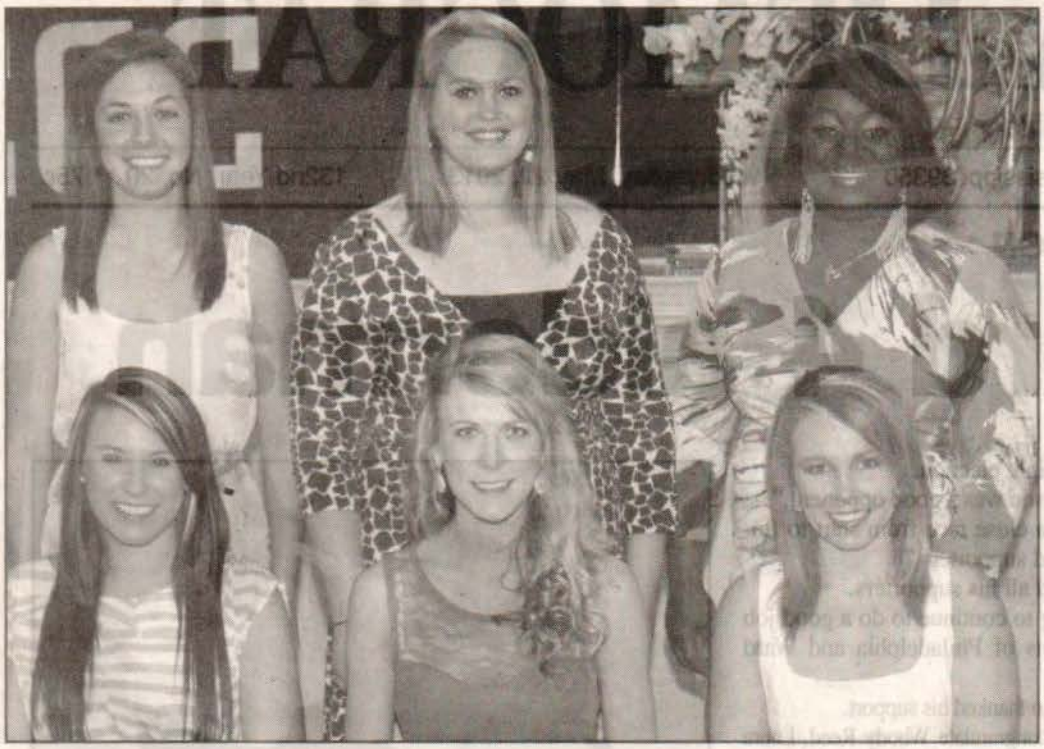
Scholarships

WEEK OF May 22, 2013



ECCC students receive MUW scholarships

East Central Community College sophomores, from left, Lauren Daniels of Philadelphia, Shelby Parkman of Lake, Hayden Stokes of Louisville, Erin Thornton of Walnut Grove and Courtney Mackey of Meridian received transfer scholarships to Mississippi University for Women, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2, 2013 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. At right is MUW representative Ika McCarter. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF May 22, 2013

Receive MSU Scholarships

These sophomores at East Central Community College received transfer scholarships to attend Mississippi State University, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2, 2013 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (front row, from left) Tyler Gilmore of Union, Samuel Irby of Morton, Allison Perry and Dakota Vowell, both of Philadelphia; Tiana Grover of Decatur and Caleb McKee of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Hannah Farmer of Decatur, Cain Prestage of Carthage, Andrew Hanna of Union, Judson Bounds of Newton, Emily Marler of Morton and Emily Lucy of Newton. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF May 22, 2013

ECCC 'Special' award recipients

These students were among those receiving 'special' awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include front row, from left, Hunter Fortenberry of Forest, freshman mathematics; Ethan Pendergrass of Philadelphia, sophomore mathematics; Nathan Powell of Meridian, Dr. Margaret Mosal for Leadership; and Tiffany Dorman of Union, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education and Delta Kappa Gamma Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; and back row, McGee Ledbetter of Columbus and Erin Thornton of Walnut Grove, co-recipients, Roy Pete Award for Soccer; Morgan Parkes of Louisville, secondary education; Addreonna Seger of Newton, The Tom-Tom; and Rayanne Craven of Newton, Lucille Wood Scholarship. Not pictured are Latoya Steele of Meridian, Chelsea Gilmer of Philadelphia and Ashleigh Savage of Union, all recipients of MBEA (Mississippi Business Educators Association) Student Awards. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 22, 2013

Receive ECCC technical awards

These students were recipients of various technical program awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include front row, from left, Wesley Clark of Meridian, collision repair; Amanda Lott of Lena, computer technology; Seth Irons of Philadelphia, electrical technology; and Rob Baker of Union, heating and air conditioning; and back row, Pheanice Hamm-Brown of Lake, culinary arts; Sabrena Andrews of Meridian, hotel and restaurant management technology; Gerren Isaac of Philadelphia, network support technology; and Ivory Weldon of Pulaski, "Technical Student of the Year." Not pictured are Adam Richardson of Philadelphia, automotive technology; Sarah Orr of Noxapater, early childhood education; and Lance Pruitt of Newton, manufacturing and machining technology. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 22, 2013

Receive ECCC Faculty Memorial Awards

These students were among those receiving Faculty Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (front row, from left) Hannah McCurdy of Morton, Aaron R. Davis Memorial Award; Trevor Ayllon of Newton, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Science and Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry Award; Terrence Steele of Philadelphia, co-recipient, Jamie Clark Memorial Award for Baseball; Caleb McKee of Philadelphia, co-recipient, Jamie Clark Memorial Award for Baseball and J. Wallace Bedwell Business Award; Felica Robinson of Hickory, Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry and General William Patrick Wilson General Academic Scholarship; and Jacob Oliver of Little Rock, Shelby L. Harris Memorial; and (back row, from left) Jessica Barnett of Forest and Erin Wooten of Carthage, co-recipients of the Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo (yearbook) award; Joseph Aulds of Decatur, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering Award; Ivory Weldon, O.L. Newell Drafting Award; Tracie Buckley of Newton, co-recipient, L. B. Simmons History Award; Aderian Partain of Union, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Award; and Allie Killens, Leon Eubanks KALJYC-Peers. Not pictured are Chandler Smith of Philadelphia, Robert G. Fick Memorial; Cindy Burnside of Decatur, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology; and Kacey Smiley of Newton, co-recipient, L.B. Simmons History Award. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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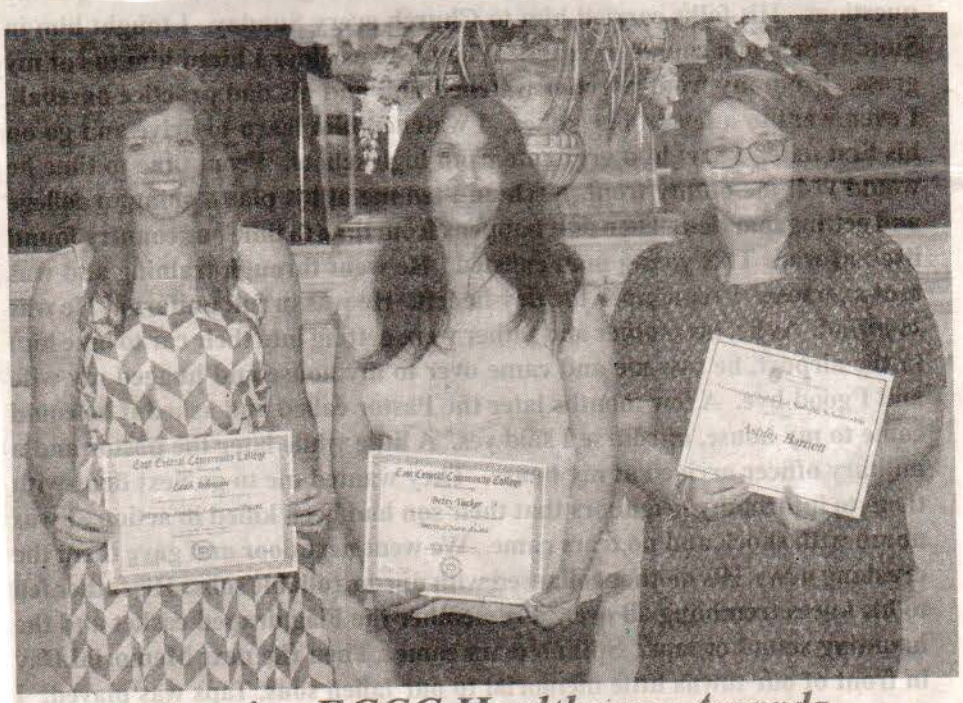
WEEK OF May 22, 2013



Receive ECCC Healthcare Awards

These students were recipients of healthcare program awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Leah Johnson of Louisville, ADN Outstanding Achievement; Betty Tucker of Morton, practical nursing; and Ashley Barnett of Union, recipient of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation Scholarship. Not pictured is Lisa Maria Collins of Newton, paramedic technology. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF May 22, 2013

ECCC announces Spring Semester

Students named to the 2013 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to Laura Ryals, Interim Director of Admissions and Records.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

ETHEL: Brittany White;

LOUISVILLE: Amanda Howard, Ryan Shotts, Leah Johnson, Lindsey McCool, Laken Fulcher, Hayden Fryery, Nakia Miller, Kelsey Nowell, Hayden Stokes and Mary Kohen;

MCCOOL: Quinn'-Toya Miller;

NOXAPATER: Barbara Hodges and Alanna Massey;

PRESTON: Kelsie Boykin;

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average.

LOUISVILLE: Santana Carter, Hailey Myers, Jamal Bates, Montana Thomason, Kayla Covington, Lucas Calvert, Zach McGarr, Christopher Mays, Teylor Martinez, Morgan Parkes, Kaylin Hopkins, Abbie Smith, Alexis Hartness and Bristol Buffington;

MCCOOL: Kelvin Ball and Charlean Glass;

NOXAPATER: Mitzi Kirk, Sarah Orr and Haley Vowell;

PRESTON: Martin Johnson and Ruby Stewart;

HONORABLE MENTION

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

LOUISVILLE: Katrina Combest, Charlotte Carter, Kelsey White, Tiandra Parker, Rebecca Estes, Michael Stokes, Kenya Hickman, Cory Goodin, Hunter Swart, Jacob Thompson, Becky Watt, Jeffrey Hemphill, Kayla Jenkins, Jack Vowell, Angela Jenkins-Coburn, Sidney Hendrix and Ieshia Hall;

MABEN: Jordan Mixon;

NOXAPATER: Taylor Smith, Steven Strehle, Elizabeth Hurt, Zachery Kemp, Brandon Coleman and Taylor Deese;

Honor Roll

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 22, 2013

ECCC honors ADN Graduates at

East Central Community College recognized its Associate Degree Nursing graduates at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held Friday, May 3, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

Receiving special recognition was Leah Johnson of Louisville, who was selected 2013 ADN Student of the Year. Johnson also delivered the program address.

Other program participants were graduates Caleb Jay of Philadelphia and Richie Ferguson of Decatur, who performed "Time of My Life." Ashley Barnett of Union gave the invocation and Jay provided the benediction.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas, ADN instructor Paula Russum and music instructor Len Bobo were also program participants.

Associate Degree nursing students who received pins included the following:

LEAKE COUNTY: India Nichols, Edinburg; Katie Loper, Walnut Grove; and Ariel Tolleson, Jenna Tolleson, Leigh Mangina, Bobbye Evans and Sade Rogers, all of Carthage;

NESHOBA COUNTY: Diana Rhea Andrews, Jill Warren and Darlene Beckham, all of Union; and Ashley Lovorn, Christina Burt, Caleb Jay, Jonee Cumberland and Brandy Talbert, all of Philadelphia;

NEWTON COUNTY: Ashley Barnett and Jessica Coleman, both of Union; and Richie Ferguson, Decatur;

SCOTT COUNTY: Karley Allen, Lake; Brandie Bounds, Forest; and Alicia Boykin and Leah Rigney, both of Morton;

WINSTON COUNTY; Amanda Howard, Nanih Waiya; Kelsie Boykin, Preston; Jeremy Woods, Noxapater; and Leah Johnson and Kelsey White, both of Louisville;

OUT-OF-DISTRICT

HINDS COUNTY: Marquata Brown, Raymond; and Jessica Brister, Ridgeland;

JASPER COUNTY: Katie Gardner, Louin:

LAUDERDALE COUNTY: Mychal Neal, Meridian;

NOXUBEE COUNTY: Rachel Bryant, Macon;

RANKIN COUNTY: Summer Hallman and Jessica Quinn, both of Brandon;

SMITH COUNTY: Sheena Nicholson Barnes, Taylorsville; and Myrna Parkman, Raleigh; and

OUT-OF-STATE

Johnson Named ECCC's Top ADN Student

Leah Johnson (right) of Louisville was selected East Central Community College's Associate Degree Nursing Student of the Year and is shown receiving an award certificate from Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas at the 2013 ADN Pinning Ceremony held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Johnson also provided the address to her fellow graduates. For information on EC's healthcare programs, contact Dean Thomas, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294. (EC Photo)

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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Annual Pinning Ceremony

Winston Students Completing ECCC's ADN Program

These Winston County residents were among the 38 graduates of East Central Community College's Associate Degree Nursing program who were recognized at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held Friday, May 3, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Honorees include (front row, from left) Amanda Howard of Nanih Waiya, Kelsie Boykin of Preston and Leah Johnson of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Jeremy Woods of Noxapater and Kelsey White of Louisville. Johnson was program speaker and was recognized as 2013 ADN Student of the Year. For information on EC's healthcare programs, contact Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294. Her email address is dthomas@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

ALABAMA: Mae Aldridge Lane, Huntsville.

Members of the Associate Degree Nursing faculty are Dr. Sherri Cantey, Lisa Gorgas, Lori Luke, Alicia Lundstrom, Dr. Evada Lyons, Melanie Pinter, Paula Russum, Christy Savell, Martie Vaughn and Denita Thomas, who serves as Dean of Healthcare Education.

WEEK OF May 22, 2013

Scott Students Completing ECCC's ADN Program

These Scott County students were among the 38 graduates of East Central Community College's Associate Degree Nursing program who were recognized at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held Friday, May 3, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Honorees include (from left) Karley Allen of Lake, Brandie Bounds of Forest, and Alicia Boykin and Leah Rigney, both of Morton. For information on EC's healthcare programs, contact Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext.294. Her email address is dthomas@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF May 22, 2013

EC nursing graduates

These Newton County residents were among the 38 graduates of East Central Community College's Associate Degree Nursing program who were recognized at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Honorees include (from left) Ashley Barnett of Union, Richie Ferguson of Decatur and Jessica Coleman of Union. For information on EC's healthcare programs, contact Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294. Her email address is dthomas@eccc.edu.

EC photo

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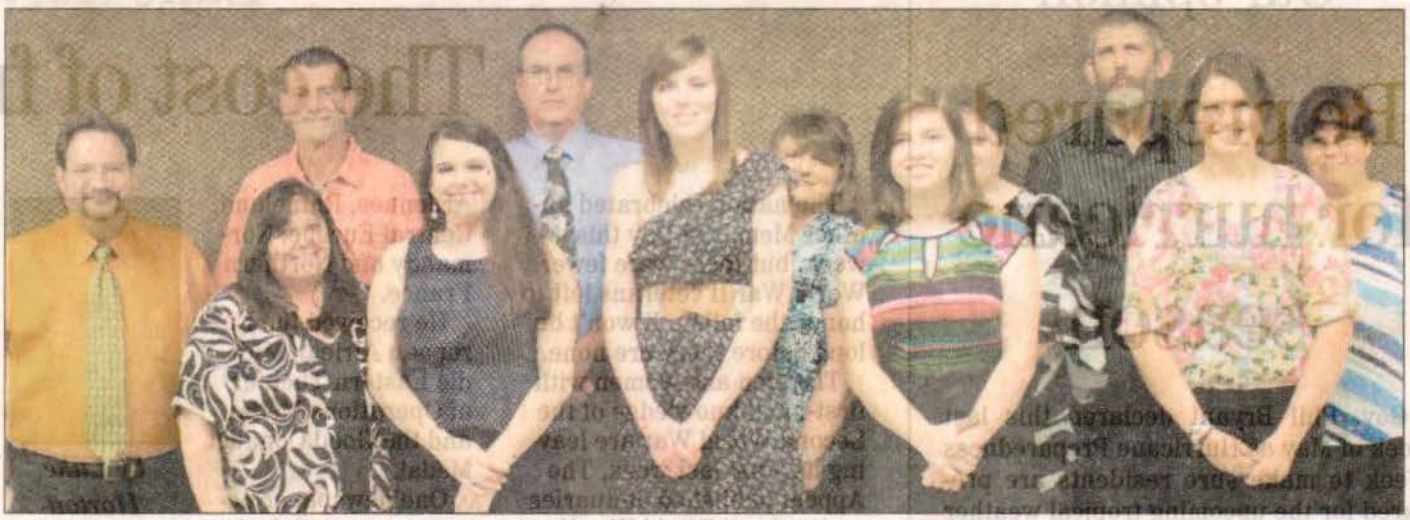
WEEK OF May 29, 2013



Four Union High School Band graduating seniors will be attending ECCC on a band scholarship. Front row, from left: Taylor Townsend, mallets; Abbey Rigdon, flute; Tori Malone, snare; Rachael Justice, clarinet. Also pictured with the seniors are Ed Girling, ECCC assistant band director; Lynn and Scotty Townsend, Barbara and Dennis Rigdon, Peggy Malone, and Chris and Donnice Justice.

photos by Ginger Burns/ Union Public Schools

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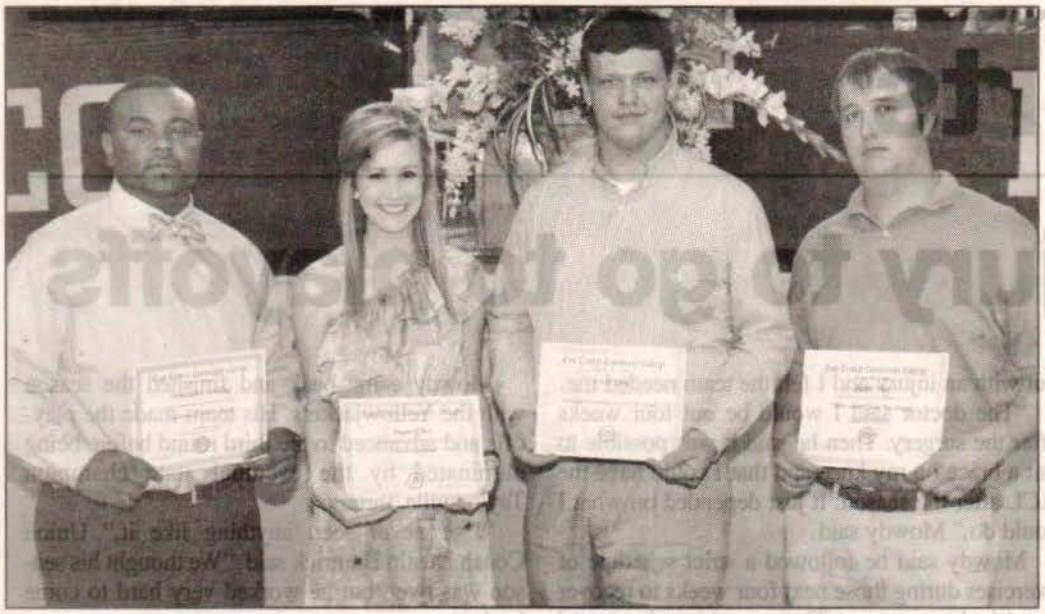
2AA, The Neshoba Democrat, Philadelphia, Miss., May 29, 2013



Receives ECCC career awards

These students were the recipients of various career program awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include, from left, Demondrae Stribling of Meridian, co-recipient, residential carpentry; Dagan Elliot of Philadelphia, co-recipient, cosmetology; Corey King of Philadelphia, co-recipient, welding and cutting; and Justin Nutt of Morton, co-recipient, welding and cutting, and "Career Student of the Year." Not pictured are Claude Epting of Morton, co-recipient, residential carpentry; and Jessy Harrison of Little Rock, co-recipient, cosmetology. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF May 29, 2013

ECCC announces spring honor roll

Students named to the 2013 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

From Conehatta: Darin Hillman; from Decatur: Jacob Loper, Kathrin Smith, Hannah Farmer, Angela Reeves, Jordan Walker, Joseph Aulds, Stephanie Spence and Robert Hebert; from Hickory: Blake Cochran, Haley Chapman and Felica Robinson; from Lake: Shelby Parkman; from Little Rock: Jacob Oliver and Tracy White; from Newton: Jennifer Collins, Judson Bounds, Kimberly Moore, Areaun Leverette, Kelsey Bounds, Rayanne Craven, Megan Wall, Cassidy Tasker, Christiana Collins, Timothy Laird and Johnnie Spires; from Union: Matthew [illegible] Yeager, Sandra Alexander, Savannah Vance, Carlie Dean and Samantha Ellingburg; from Newton: Robin Towner, Colt Collins, Christopher Tramill, Kim Amerson, Emily Lucy, Jack Brand, Victoria Shimfessel, Michael Buntyn, Magen Pierce, Robin Coker, Karri Miller, Jackie Humphreys, Trevor Aylion, Ryan Godwin, Brandon St.Clair, Kiyanna White, Sara Kilgore, Leah Humphreys and Hannah Robinson;

HONORABLE MENTION

From Collinsville: Brandy Talbert, Gareth Driskill and Matthew Walker; from Conehatta: Jerry Hazlip, Audriann Thomas, Jessica Coleman, Hanzel Isaac, Kelsi Shelley, Laryssa Gonzalez, Samantha Evans, Katie Bradley, Adrian Tucker and Andreka Buie; from Decatur: Stephanie Harrison, Brittany Edwards, Haley Chaney, Jeremy Carson, Matthew Brown, Adam Savell, James Gentry, Lauren Ezelle, Jessica Brashier, Joseph Pigg, Caitlyn Sant, Mallory Wilkerson and Kara Miller; from Hickory: Shellandra Bogan, Samantha Floyd, Julien Gillis, Tadarin Foster, Benjamin Avera, Shelby Bishop, Marquis Ellis; from Lake: Tiffany Gardner, Karley Allen, Casey Bryant, Jessie Barrett, Marquel Evans, Brianna Parkman, Emmarald Jones, Devyn Harrison and Jacob Gibbs; from Lawrence: Hanah Parker, Tanner Clanton and Tiffany Watkins; from Little Rock: Tiffany Vrbicky, Candis Edmonds, Kristen Hawks, Olivia Harrison, Zachery May and William Cress; from Newton: Javossiya Walker, Pamela Glenn, Lillian Curry, Rachristopher Jones, Kimberly Lindsey, Marquita McLaurin, Aristotle Love, Jasmaine Skinner, Alma Pickens, Courtney Pugh, Ashley Roebuck, Jamey Tune, Lacrystal Rhynes, Nikki Jones, Jessica Wright, Julie Myers, Mikayla Carson, Amanda Pientowski, Morgan Luke, Kacey Smiley, Robert Walker, Shanice Walker, Deeanna Carlson, Britney Johnson and Virgil Williams; from Sebastopol: Weston Shaw; from Union: Chelsea Rigdon, Meagan Graham, Justin Fender, Stephen Horne, Melissa Warren, Ashley Barnett, Tiffany Smith, Amanda Barnett, Candice Gore, Megan Montgomery, Tori McInnis, Reneisha Evans, Emma Burton, Ashley Bozeman, Jayohnnie Slaughter, Mary Price, Kristien Winstead, Jonathan Moore and Joshua Bradley.

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WEEK OF May 29, 2013

Receives ECCC Alumni Memorial Awards

These students were among those receiving Alumni Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include front, from left, Andrew Hanna of Union, Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics, Billy Wayne Baucum Award for Secondary Education and Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; Emily Lucy of Newton, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontraditional Education; Hillary Williams of Philadelphia, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education Award; and Addreonna Seger of Newton, Alatha Chaney English Award; and back, Judson Bounds of Newton, W.A. Coursey, Jr., Engineering; Zachary Killion of Crestwood, Ky., Danny Ray Killens Engineering; Eden McGee of Philadlephia, Homer F. Hunter Award For Athletic Managers; Meghan Johnson of Lena, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services Award. Not pictured are Jessie Boatner of Philadelphia, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; Jessie Barrett of Lake, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; Darius Beavers of Stringer, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; Paul Kirkman of Ralph, Ala., Andrew F. Webb Football; T.J. Leatherwood of Northport, Ala., Howard Sessums Men's Basketball; and Reneisha Evans of Union, Earline Wood Women's Basketball. (EC Photo)

APPEARED

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WEEK OF May 29, 2013

ECCC announces spring honor roll

Students named to the 2013 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

From Conehatta: Darin Hillman; from Decatur: Jacob Loper, Kathrin Smith, Hannah Farmer, Angela Reeves, Jordan Walker, Joseph Aulds, Stephanie Spence and Robert Hebert; from Hickory: Blake Cochran, Haley Chapman and Felica Robinson; from Lake: Shelby Parkman; from Little Rock: Jacob Oliver and Tracy White; from Newton: Jennifer Collins, Judson Bounds, Kimberly Moore, Areaun Leverette, Kelsey Bounds, Rayanne Craven, Megan Wall, Cassidy Tasker, Christiana Collins, Timothy Laird and Johnnie Spires; from Union: Matthew Mason, Shawn Anderson, Andrew Hanna, Hannah Berryhill, Mallory Williams, Jacob Wiggs, Lee Smith, Casey Cherry, Robert Baker, Silvia Viana Carvalho, Tiffany Dorman, Erika Clark, Victoria Holsen, Ashlyn Pullin and Patricia Thweatt.

DEAN'S LIST

From Chunky: Denise Glover, Taylor Gressett and Heather Johnson; from Collinsville: Jessie Armstrong and Matthew Morris; from Conehatta: Tracie Harris, Sarah Labue, Christy Williams and Jacob King; from Decatur: Cindy Burnside, Guy Loper, Melissa Griffin, Latishia Johnson, Tiana Grover, Russell Thompson, William Thompson, Miriam Williams, Aaron Brown, Jesse Vaughn and Zachary Yates; from Hickory: Aaron Lawson, Alexandria Meador, Melissa Manues, Emily Jacome-Cluff, Alexandria Hollingsworth, Samantha Gunn, Bryant Williams and Aaron Rose; from Lake: Leslie Tucker, Tamantha Qualls, Matthew Risher, Gary Cooksey, Tracy Gray, Clarence Creel, Jacob Emmons, Spear Gilmer, Pheanice Hamm-Brown and Andrea Taflinger; from Lawrence: Nathaniel Richard-Yeager, Sandra Alexander, Savannah Vance, Carlie Dean and Samantha Ellingburg; from Newton: Robin Towner, Colt Collins, Christopher Tramill, Kim Amerson, Emily Lucy, Jack Brand, Victoria Shimfessel, Michael Buntyn, Magen Pierce, Robin Coker, Karri Miller, Jackie Humphreys, Trevor Aylion, Ryan Godwin, Brandon St.Clair, Kiyanna White, Sara Kilgore, Leah Humphreys and Hannah Robinson;

HONORABLE MENTION

From Collinsville: Brandy Talbert, Gareth Driskill and Matthew Walker; from Conehatta: Jerry Hazlip, Audriann Thomas, Jessica Coleman, Hanzel Isaac, Kelsi Shelley, Laryssa Gonzalez, Samantha Evans, Katie Bradley, Adrian Tucker and Andreka Buie; from Decatur: Stephanie Harrison, Brittany Edwards, Haley Chaney, Jeremy Carson, Matthew Brown, Adam Savell, James Gentry, Lauren Ezelle, Jessica Brashier, Joseph Pigg, Caitlyn Sant, Mallory Wilkerson and Kara Miller; from Hickory Shellandra Bogan, Samantha Floyd, Julien Gillis, Tadarin Foster, Benjamin Avera, Shelby Bishop, Marquis Ellis; from Lake: Tiffany Gardner, Karley Allen, Casey Bryant, Jessie Barrett, Marquel Evans, Brianna Parkman, Emmarald Jones, Devyn Harrison and Jacob Gibbs; from Lawrence: Hanah Parker, Tanner Clanton and Tiffany Watkins; from Little Rock: Tiffany Vrbicky, Candis Edmonds, Kristen Hawks, Olivia Harrison, Zachery May and William Cress; from Newton: Javossiya Walker, Pamela Glenn, Lillian Curry, Rachristopher Jones, Kimberly Lindsey, Marquita McLaurin, Aristotle Love, Jasmaine Skinner, Alma Pickens, Courtney Pugh, Ashley Roebuck, Jamey Tune, Lacrystal Rhynes, Nikki Jones, Jessica Wright, Julie Myers, Mikayla Carson, Amanda Pientowski, Morgan Luke, Kacey Smiley, Robert Walker, Shanice Walker, Deeanna Carlson, Britney Johnson and Virgil Williams; from Sebastopol: Weston Shaw; from Union: Chelsea Rigdon, Meagan Graham, Justin Fender, Stephen Horne, Melissa Warren, Ashley Barnett, Tiffany Smith, Amanda Barnett, Candice Gore, Megan Montgomery, Tori McInnis, Reneisha Evans, Emma Burton, Ashley Bozeman, Jayohnnie Slaughter, Mary Price, Kristien Winstead, Jonathan Moore and Joshua Bradley.

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WEEK OF May 29, 2013

ECCC Associate Degree Nursing Program Graduates

Above are graduates of East Central Community College's Associate Degree Nursing program who were recognized at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held Friday, May 3, 2013, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Honorees and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) India Nichols, Edinburg; Kelsie Boykin, Preston; Ariel Tolleson, Carthage; Jessica Coleman, Union; Alicia Boykin, Morton; Leah Johnson, Louisville; Christina Burt, Philadelphia; and Jeanna Tolleson, Carthage; (second row, from left) Katie Loper, Walnut Grove; Bobbie Evans, Carthage; Ashley Barnett, Union; Ashley Lovern, Philadelphia; Marquata Brown and Jessica D. Brister, both of Jackson; Rachel Bryant, Macon, Leah Rigney, Morton; and Karley Allen, Lake; (third row, from left) Jill Warren, Union; Leigh Mangina, Carthage; Brandie Bounds, Forest; Summer Hallman, Brandon; Katie Gardner, Starkville; Amanda Howard, Nanih Waiya; Mae Aldridge-Lane, Huntsville, Ala.; Myrna Parkman, Raleigh; and Darlene Beckham, Union; and (fourth row, from left) Sheena Nicholson Barnes, Taylorsville; Diane Rea Andrews, Union; Jeremy Woods, Noxapater; Sade Rogers, Carthage; Caleb Jay, Philadelphia; Richie Ferguson, Decatur; Mychal Neal, Meridian; Kelsey White, Louisville; Jonee Cumberland and Randy Talbert, both of Philadelphia; and Jessica Quinn, Brandon. Johnson was program speaker and was recognized as 2013 ADN Student of the Year. Jay and Ferguson performed "Time of My Life." ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas, ADN instructor Paula Russum, music instructor Len Bobo and graduate Ashley Barnett also participated in the pinning program. *(EC Photo)*

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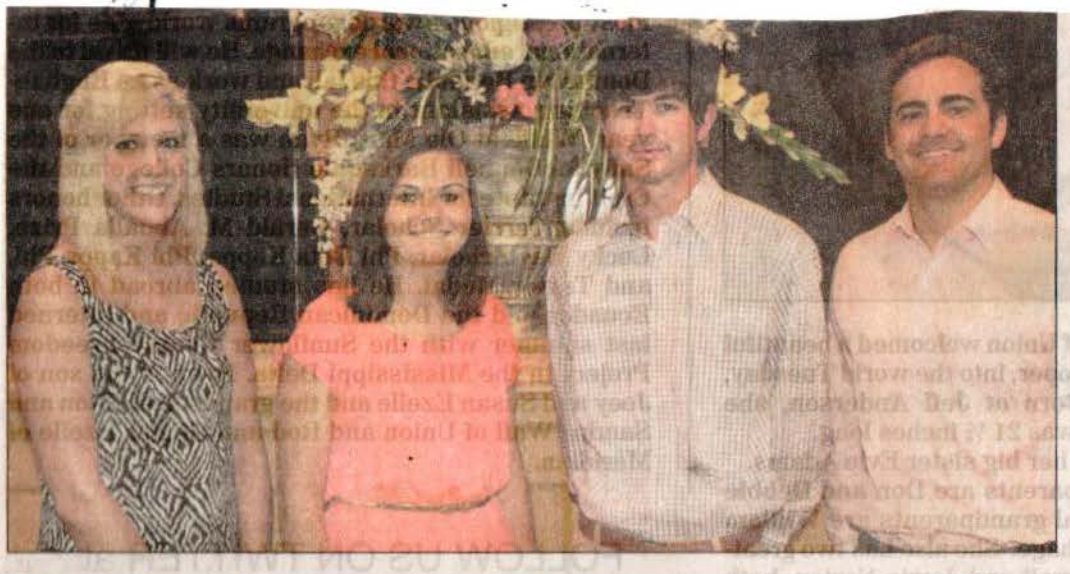

These East Central Community College sophomores received transfer scholarships to the University of Mississippi, which were presented during the College's annual Awards Day ceremonies held May 2. Pictured are (from left) Sandy Alexander of Little Rock, Ivory Weldon of Pulaski and Lee McDill of Decatur. At right is Ole Miss representative Tyler Biggs who made the presentation.

EC photo

These students were recipients of healthcare program awards during the annual Ea Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2. Students and their r spective awards include (from left) Leah Johnson of Louisville, ADN Outstandi Achievement; Betty Tucker of Morton, practical nursing; and Ashley Barnett of Uni recipient of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation Scholarship. Not pictured is Lisa Ma Collins of Newton, paramedic technology.

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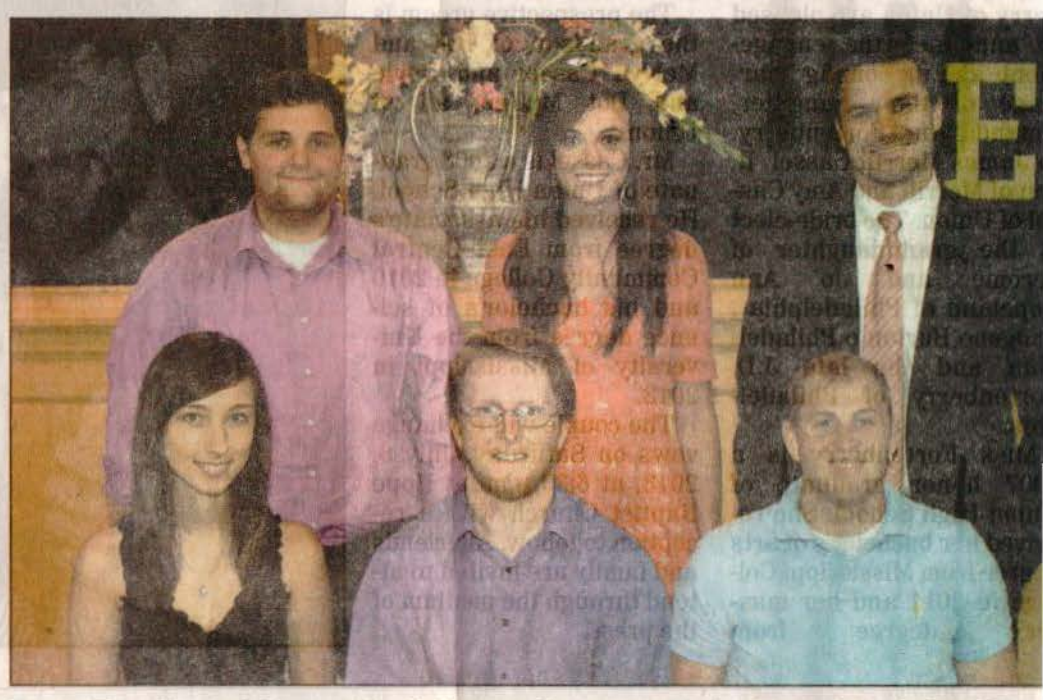
ECCC students receive scholarships, awards

These East Central Community College sophomores received transfer scholarships to the University of Southern Mississippi during the College's annual Awards Day program held May 2. Pictured are (front row, from left) Jessica Barnett of Forest, Jon Marie Baucum of Decatur and Eden McGee of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Magen Pierce of Newton and Jeremy Carson of Decatur. Also pictured is USM representative Shea Gibson who presented the awards.

EC photo



These East Central Community College sophomores received transfer scholarships t Mississippi College in Clinton, which were presented during the annual East Centra Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 2. Pictured are (front row, fro left) Melissa Manues of Hickory, Rob Parker of Puckett and Jared Canoy of Biloxi; an (back row, from left) Jacob King of Conehatta and Meghan Johnson of Lena. At right MC representative Jacob Daniel.

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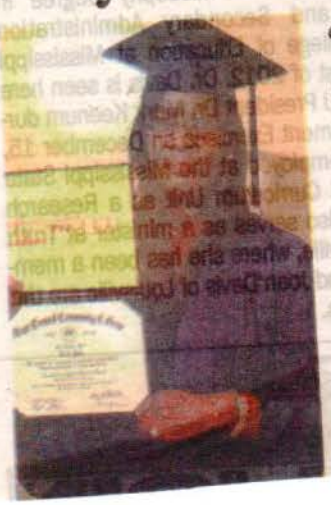
WEEK OF June 12, 2013

Paty receives degree from ECCC



children.

Mrs. Paty is a 1976 graduate of Weir High School. After being out of school for over 30 years, she decided to pursue an Associate's degree. Her love for working with children helped her to decide her major. She volunteered for several years at Head Start working in the classroom and was later hired as a janitor. After being hired as a janitor, she continued to help in the classrooms when needed.

Mrs. Paty attended evening classes at ECCC while working full time. It was hard work, but her determination helped her to achieve her goal. Upon receiving her degree, she was hired as a teacher's Assistant at Head Start.

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Scott County students win journalism awards

DECATUR — East Central Community College's student newspaper, *The Tom-Tom*, was among the top student newspapers in the state recognized during the 2013 O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held this spring at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in Jackson.

East Central students earned 18 awards in the Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest in the Community and Junior College Division, including second place in the general excellence award, the top award granted for student newspapers in the community college division for the state.

The Tom-Tom also received two first place, seven additional second place, seven third place and two honorable mention awards in the competition. In the Better Newspaper Competition, members of *The Tom-Tom* staff earned the following awards:

▸ A first place finish for May 2012 graduate ***Rachel Ramirez of Forest***, Best General Interest Column, and third place award, Best Sports Feature;

▸ A first place award for ***Eliud "Lulu" Alvarez of Forest***, Best Sports Photo;

▸ Sophomore ***Jessica Barnett of Forest*** was recognized with a second place award for Spot or Investigative Package;

▸ A second place award for Sophomore Claire Griffin of Decatur, Best Cartoon;

▸ Freshman Madison Herrington of Union was recognized with a second place award for Best Sports Feature;

▸ A second place award for sophomore and *The Tom-Tom* editor Addreonna Seger of Newton, General Interest Column, and third place award, Best Editorial;

▸ Freshman Will Stokes of Philadelphia was recognized with a third place award for General Interest Column;

▸ A third place award for freshman ***Candice Stewart of Morton***, Best Feature Photograph;

▸ May 2012 graduate Ashley Moore of Carthage was recognized with two third place awards for Best General News Story and Best Feature Story;

▸ An honorable mention award for May 2012 graduate Meghan McIntosh of Carthage, Best Feature Photograph.

▸ Claire Tadlock of Decatur received an honorable mention award for Best Feature Photograph; and

▸ *The Tom-Tom* staff also received two additional second place honors for Best Design and Best Front Page and a third place honor for Best Miscellaneous Advertisement.

The Tom-Tom is a student-led newspaper representative of the student body of East Central Community College in Decatur. The staff is led by Seger, editor; and ***Holli Nutt of Morton***, design editor. ECCC Publications Coordinator ***Gennie Phillips of Forest*** serves as adviser.

ECCC PHOTO

Members of East Central Community College's newspaper staff display various awards. Pictured are Candice Stewart and Design Editor Holli Nutt, both of Morton; Editor Addreonna Seger of Newton, Jessica Barnett and Adviser Gennie Phillips, both of Forest.

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN
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WEEK OF June 26, 2013

Ready for school

William Howington, a 2013 graduate of Newton County High School, is shown preparing his fall class schedule with the assistance of East Central Community College drafting and design technology instructor Polly Mayes during registration activities held June 1. In addition to receiving their approved class schedules, students who attend registration can reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photographs made for identification cards and the College yearbook. Additional orientation/registration sessions will be held July 12; and Aug. 9. Fall classes begin Wednesday, Aug. 14. For more information contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF June 26, 2013

Lipsey visits

John Lipsey (left) of Louisville was among area students who attended orientation/registration activities held Friday, June 21 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Lipsey, a Nanih Waiya High School graduate, is shown receiving assistance in planning his fall class schedule from Danny Gressett, precision manufacturing and machining technology instructor. Orientation sessions are held for new and transfer students planning to attend the 2013 fall semester. Additional sessions will be held Friday, July 12; and Friday, August 9. Fall classes begin Wednesday, August 14. For more information, contact Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 26 2013

Future thoughts

Moffett Attends ECCC Registration/Orientation

Jessica Moffett (right), a 2013 graduate of Nanih Waiya High School, is shown preparing her fall class schedule with the assistance of East Central Community College science division chair and instructor Curt Skipper during registration activities held Saturday, June 1, 2013, on the Decatur campus. In addition to receiving their approved class schedules, students who attend registration can reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photographs made for identification cards and the College yearbook. Additional orientation/registration sessions will be held Friday, June 21; Friday, July 12; and Friday, August 9. Fall classes begin Wednesday, August 14, 2013. For more information contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu <mailto:rlee@eccc.edu> . (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF _____

Receives Boggan Scholarship at ECCC

Hailey Smith, left, is the 2013 recipient of the Iris Pellegrene Boggan Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Neshoba Central High School product is pictured with Mrs. Boggan, center, and her daughter, Ada Boggan McGrevey, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 3, 2013

The Neshoba Democrat, Philadelphia, Miss., July 3, 2013, 5B

Donald attends ECCC orientation

Ashika Donald (left) of Union was among area students who attended orientation activities held Friday, June 21, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Donald, a Union High School graduate, is shown receiving assistance in planning her fall class schedule from Debra Payton, childcare center director/early childhood education instructor. Orientation sessions are held for new and transfer students planning to attend the 2013 fall semester. Additional sessions will be held Friday, July 12; and Friday, August 9. Fall classes begin Wednesday, August 14. For more information, contact Student Services, 601-635-6205 or rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 3, 2013

Awards

NEWS BRIEFS

ECCC announces spring semester President's List

Students named to the 2013 spring semester honor roll were announced at East Central Community College. Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

Forest: Megan Everett, Emilee Cox, Kelsey Cox, Shawn Evans, Kimberly Rigby, Peggy Sims and Sharley Hardin; **Lake:** Shelby Parkman; **Morton:** Justin Runnels, Emily Marler, Anna Boyd, Melissa Bailey and Claude Epting; **Pulaski:** Myrna Parkman and Joseph Matuszewski.

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average. **Forest:** Demetrice Moore, Ryan McClendon, Shelby Patterson, Shyanna Bell, Jessica Barnett, Crystal Anderson, Mae Patrick, Brittney Darby, Daniel Chim, Thomas Phipps, Jessica Brown, Eliud Alvarez, Brady Power, Eryn Smith, Jason Stroud, David Aust, Adriana Esguerra and Maria Martinez; **Lake:** Leslie Tucker, Tamantha Qualls, Matthew Risher, Gary Cooksey, Tracy Gray, Clarence Creel, Jacob Emmons, Spear Gilmer, Pheanice Hamm-Brown and Andrea Taflinger; **Morton:** Samuel Irby, Kara Johnson, Chauncy Griffin, Joseph Patrick and Hannah McCurdy; **Pulaski:** Ivory Weldon.

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(continued from previous page)

July 3, 2013

ECCC student-athletes named NJCAA Academic All-Americans

These former student-athletes at East Central Community College in Decatur were recognized for their academic success in 2012-13 by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). The NJCAA honors are presented in three categories – Pinnacle Award for Academic Excellence (4.0 Career GPA); Award for Superior Academic Achievement (3.79 – 3.99 Career GPA); and Exemplary Academic Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 Career GPA). EC honorees, shown prior to receiving diplomas at the College's 2013 Commencement on May 11, include seated, from left, Blake Cochran of Hickory and Andrew Hanna of Union, Pinnacle Award; and LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia, Superior Academic Achievement; and standing are Zach McGarr of Decatur, Superior Academic Achievement; and Lucas Calvert of Louisville, Hunter Mayo of Carthage and Kelsey Tadlock of Decatur, Exemplary Academic Achievement. Not pictured are Caleb McKee of Philadelphia, Pinnacle Award for Academic Excellence; Kalik May of Tuscaloosa, Ryan Shotts of Louisville, Terrance Steele of Philadelphia and Zack Killion, Superior Academic Achievement; and Fernando Gonzalez of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico; Taylor Potter of Bentonia, Zak Thrasher of Columbus and Blake Dubuisson of Long Beach, Exemplary Academic Achievement. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 4, 2013

Events

UM FOOTBALL

Rebel killed in car wreck

Stevens joined team in spring

By Michael Bonner
mbonner@clarionledger.com

Ole Miss sophomore offensive lineman Park Stevens died Wednesday afternoon in a car accident in Chickasaw County.

"Our team is hurting tonight with the loss of Park," Ole Miss coach Hugh Freeze said in a statement Wednesday night. "He was a tremendous young man that was loved by his teammates and coaches, and Rebel Nation will never forget him. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Stevens family, his friends, our team and all those he touched during his life."

Stevens

Stevens was killed when his pickup collided with the rear of an 18-wheeler at the intersection of Egypt Road and Highway 45A at around 3 p.m., Mississippi Highway Patrol Cpl. Chris Turnipseed told The (Tupelo) Daily Journal without identifying Stevens. The driver of the 18-wheeler was uninjured, and no one else was involved in the accident.

The accident is still under investigation, Turnipseed said.

Stevens joined the Rebels in the spring of 2013 as a walk-on, transferring to Ole Miss after two seasons at East Central Community College.

"I hate to talk in the past tense, because it hasn't sunk in yet," former ECCC coach Brian Anderson said. "Park had such a magnetic personality. He didn't meet a stranger. With Park, there was never a dull moment in a team meeting or in practice. You could get upset and things not be going well, and he would have something to say and the whole mood would change. He just had personality for days."

News of Stevens' death and condolences spread quickly via social media.

Ole Miss center Evan Swindall tweeted, "Lost one of my best friends today. Please pray for the Stevens family. Miss you already buddy @_parkstevens."

"Im gonna miss you buddy. You were an awesome roommate and an even better friend. I know you're there watching me. Love you," Ole Miss redshirt freshman offensive lineman Robert Conyers said via Twitter.

"One of my former players just passed away. I just can't. I just talked to him yesterday morning. This cant be real," ECCC assistant football coach Donovan Tate said via Twitter.

The Columbus native graduated from New Hope High School in 2011.

To contact Michael Bonner, call (601) 961-7289 or follow @MikeBBonner on Twitter.

"Park had such a magnetic personality. He didn't meet a stranger."

BRIAN ANDERSON
Former ECCC coach

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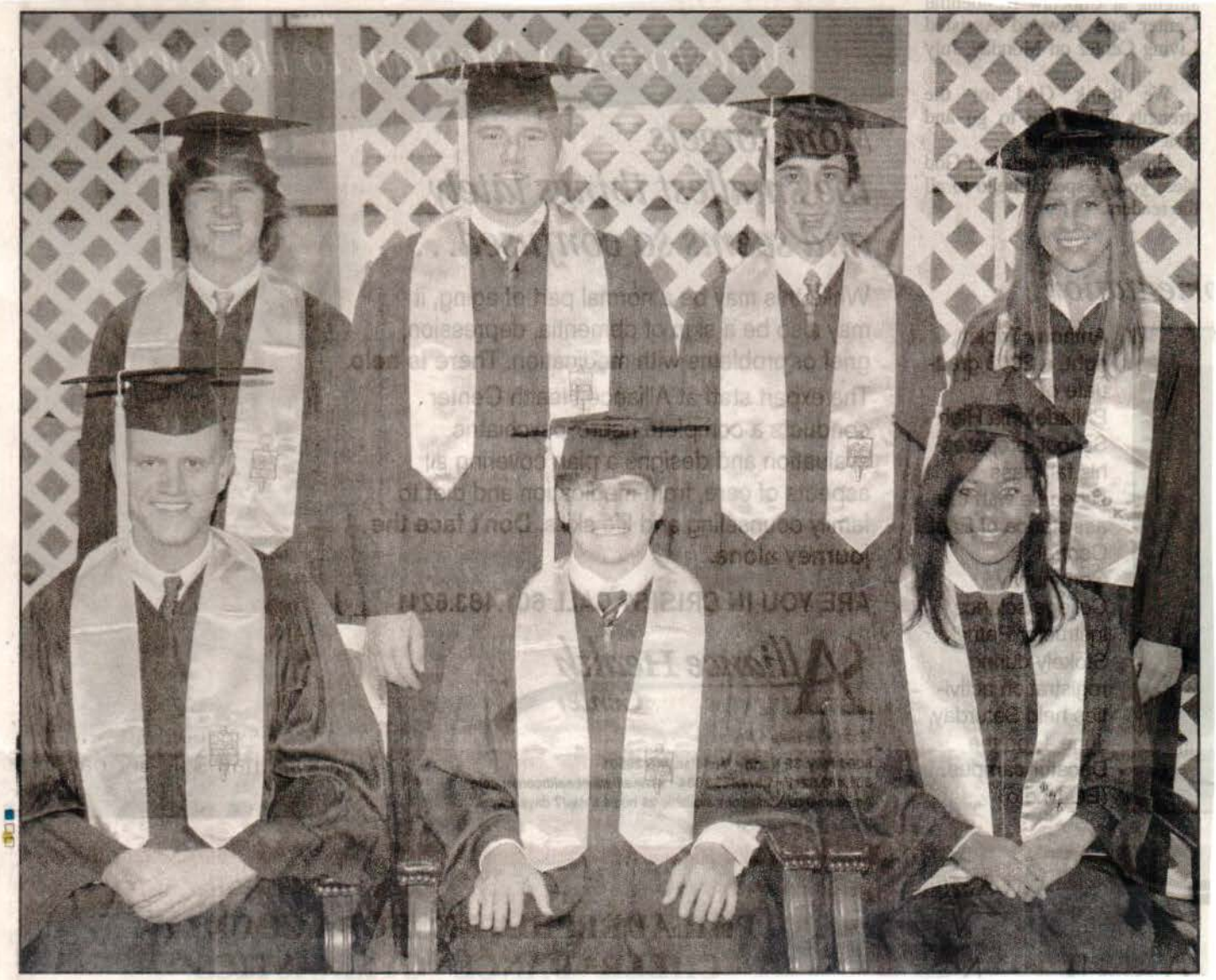
WEEK OF July 3, 2013

Graduation



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WEEK OF July 15, 2013

Visitors

Madelyn Peterson (center) of Winston Academy and Lauren Peterson (right), a product of Forest High School, were among area students who attended orientation/registration activities earlier this summer at East Central Community College in Decatur. The two cousins are shown receiving information about the College from academic counselor/recruiter Lanette Hanna. An additional orientation/registration session for new and transfer students will be held Friday, August 9. Fall classes begin Wednesday, August 14. For more information, contact Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 17, 2013

ECCC's Phi Beta Lambda Students Receive National Honors

Several students representing the Phi Beta Lambda Chapter at East Central Community College in Decatur received various honors at the 2013 National PBL Conference held in Anaheim, Calif.

Award-winners included Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, Timmie Ivey Wiggins of Little Rock and Tanner Fortenberry of Union, who finished fourth in the Small Business Management Plan competition; Chelsea Gilmer and Jessie Boatner, both of Philadelphia, and Ashleigh Savage of Union, fifth place, Free Enterprise Project; Cindy Burnside of Decatur, seventh place, Local Chapter Annual Business Report.

Ashleigh Savage and Haleigh Graham of Sebastopol finished 14th in the Integrated Marketing Campaign competition.

Tanner Fortenberry was also selected Mississippi's Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda award recipient. Fortenberry is the third EC student to receive the prestigious honor.

Yashica Ickom of Lake also received special recognition as she was chosen Mississippi PBL Vice President.

Latoya Steele of Louisville also represented EC at the national conference.

The outstanding students were accompanied by PBL advisers Christy Ferguson, business technology instructor; and Thomas Fortenberry, computer network support technology instructor.

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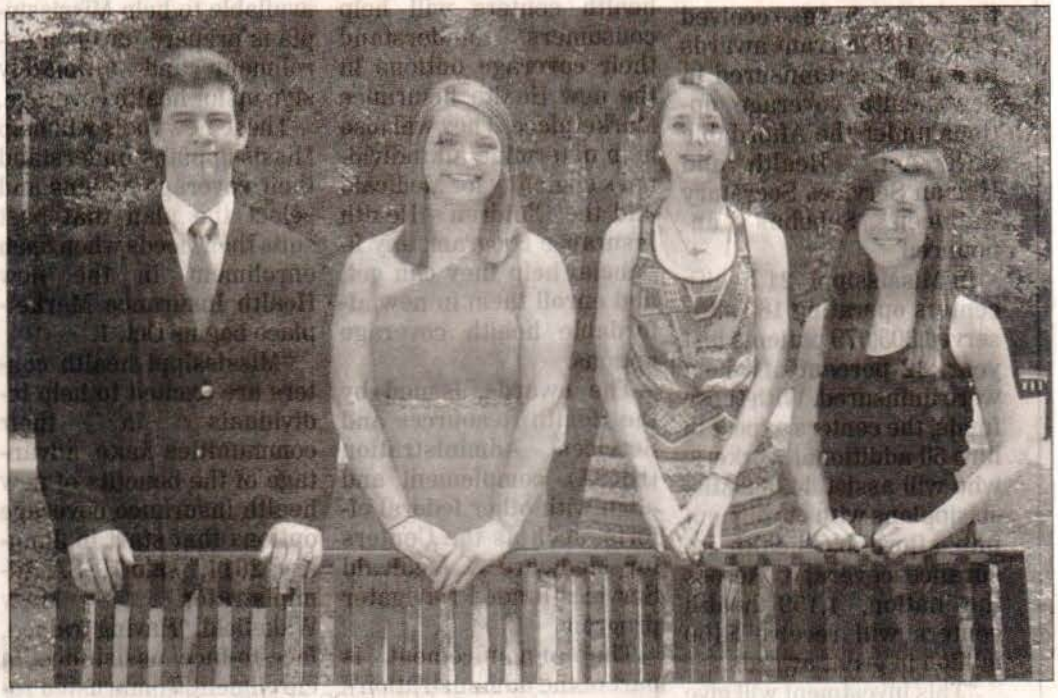
WEEK OF July 17, 2013

ECCC drum majors



Selected as Drum Majors for the 2013-14 East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band are (from left) Nathan Williams of Union, Emily Jacome-Cluff of Newton County, Sarah Hall of Philadelphia and Katie Sanford of Newton County. Hunter Corhern, ECCC Director of Bands, made the announcement following auditions held recently on the Decatur campus.

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WEEK OF July 22, 2013 17

Organizational / Clubs

EC yearbook staff announced

From school reports

The editorial board of the 73rd edition of the Wo-He-Lo yearbook of East Central Community College in Decatur was recently announced by Publications Coordinator Gennie Phillips.

Conor Bell of Carthage will serve as editor for the upcoming publication.

"I feel absolutely honored to have been selected as the editor of the Wo-He-Lo," Bell said.

Phillips, who serves as adviser for yearbook and newspaper staffs, said there will be a panel of senior assistant editors and assistant editors who will be helping Bell with editorial duties. Senior assistant editors include sophomores Payton Smith of Forest, Madison Herrington of Union, Candice Stewart of Morton and Claire Griffin of Decatur.

Assistant editors serving on the board include freshmen Samantha Morgan of Louisville, Anna Girling and Emily Cook, both of Carthage; Bailey Easterling of Forest, Shannon McNeil of Sebastopol, DeeJay Rolison of Decatur and Christian Little of Philadelphia.

"We have a great year ahead and look forward to having the staff come together to best capture the 2013-14 school year," Phillips said.

Bell and his editorial board have already begun the planning process for the upcoming yearbook and have been meeting with staff members to prepare for the publication.

"This year will be different and new for all of us on staff and for the college as we will be doing a magazine-style book," Bell said, referencing that the yearbook will include less pictures, more articles and more classy designs.

"Because of this style of book being so new, we are striving to have one of the top yearbooks in the state among community colleges," he said. "I feel confident that with the guidance of our sponsor and the creativity and work of our assistant editors and soon-to-be yearbook staffers that we can accomplish this goal with ease."

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(continued from previous page)

July 22, 2013

Editors of the 73rd edition of the Wo-He-Lo yearbook of East Central Community College are, front row from left, Bailey Easterling, Emily Cook, Samantha Morgan and Shannon McNeil; and back row from left, assistant editor DeeJay Rollison; senior assistant editors Madison Herrington and Payton Smith and editor Conor Bell. Senior assistant editors not pictured include Claire Griffin and Candice Stewart. Assistant editors not pictured include Anna Girling and Christian Little.

WEEK OF July 24, 2013

ECCC PBL RECEIVES NATIONAL HONORS

Special to The Star

East Central Community College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter received various honors at the 2013 National PBL Conference held in Anaheim, Calif. Award winners and other conference participants included (front row, from left) Tanner Fortenberry of Union, fourth place, Small Business Management Plan and Mississippi's representative to Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda; Chelsea Gilmer of Philadelphia, fifth, Free Enterprise Project; Ashleigh Savage of Union, fifth, Free Enterprise Project and 14th, Integrated Marketing Campaign; Yashica Ickom of Lake, selected Mississippi PBL Vice President; Timmie Ivey Wiggins of Little Rock, fourth, Small Business Management Plan; and Haleigh Graham of Sebastopol,14th, Integrated Marketing Campaign; and (back row, from left) Jessie Boatner of Philadelphia, fifth place, Free Enterprise Project; Cindy Burnside of Decatur, seventh, Local Chapter Annual Business Report; Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, fourth, Small Business Management Plan; and Latoya Steele of Louisville. Fortenberry is the third EC student to be chosen as Mississippi's Who's Who award recipient. The outstanding students were accompanied by PBL advisers Christy Ferguson, business technology instructor; and Thomas Fortenberry, computer network support technology instructor.

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WEEK OF July 29, 2013

EC Phi Beta Lambda students honored

Several students representing the Phi Beta Lambda Chapter at East Central Community College in Decatur received various honors at the 2013 National PBL Conference held in Anaheim, Calif.

Award-winners included Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, Timmie Ivey Wiggins of Little Rock and Tanner Fortenberry of Union, who finished fourth in the Small Business Management Plan competition; Chelsea Gilmer and Jessie Boatner, both of Philadelphia, and Ashleigh Savage of Union, fifth place, Free Enterprise Project; Cindy Burnside of Decatur, seventh place, Local Chapter Annual Business Report.

Ashleigh Savage and Haleigh Graham of Sebastopol finished 14th in the Integrated Marketing Campaign competition.

Tanner Fortenberry was also selected Mississippi's Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda award recipient. Fortenberry is the third EC student to receive the prestigious honor.

Yashica Ickom of Lake also received special recognition as she was chosen Mississippi PBL Vice President.

Latoya Steele of Louisville also represented EC at the national conference.

The students were accompanied by PBL advisers Christy Ferguson, business technology instructor; and Thomas Fortenberry, computer network support technology instructor.

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WEEK OF July 24, 2013

EC's Award-Winning Students at National SkillsUSA Contest

These career-technical students representing East Central Community College in Decatur received various honors at the 49th Annual SkillsUSA Conference held earlier this summer in Kansas City, MO. Award-winners and their respective areas of competition included (from left) Wesley Clark of Decatur, 21st, Collision Repair Technology; and Brittany Smith of Decatur, Sarah Orr of Noxapater and Wanda Harrison of Walnut Grove, fifth place, Promotional Bulletin Board. (Submitted Photo)

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Front, from left, are Kang-Lin Tsai, Tupelo; Dannya Spradley, Laurel; Chelsie Wright, Pearl; and Kacie Harris, Tupelo; second row: Helen Turner, Jackson; Marika Zarafyan, McComb; Meghan Johnson, Lena; and Tameka Carmichael, Pachuta; third row: William Meruvia, Philadelphia; and Logan Ramsey, Pontotoc; and fourth row: Casey Stanford, Gautier; Hunter McLendon, Hernando; Ethan Collier, Belmont; and Sonny Hodge, Taylorsville. Not pictured are Sosa Adah, Clinton; Joie Boyles, Lucedale; and Griffin Metcalf, Anguilla.

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July 24, 2013

Meruvia selected for undergraduate state Rural Physicians Scholarship Program

William Meruvia, a sophomore at the East Central Community College and Philadelphia native, was recently selected to participate in the undergraduate portion of the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program (MRPSP). William is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Osvaldo Meruvia of Philadelphia.

Created in 2007, MRPSP identifies up to 20 college sophomores who demonstrate the necessary commitment and academic achievement to become competent, well-trained rural primary care physicians in our state. The program offers two years of undergraduate academic enrichment including MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) preparation and a clinical experience in a rural setting. Upon completion of all medical school admissions requirements, the student will be admitted to the University of Mississippi School of Medicine through Direct Entry.

During medical school, each MRPSP scholar may receive $30,000 per year based on available funding. Consistent legislative support of MRPSP translates to 50 medical students receiving a total of $1,500,000 to support their education this fall. Additional benefits include personalized mentoring from practicing rural physicians and academic support.

Upon completion of medical training, MRPSP Scholars must enter a residency program in one of five primary care specialties: family medicine, general internal medicine, medicine-pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology or pediatrics. The MRPSP Scholar must provide four years of service in a clinic-based practice in an approved Mississippi community of 20,000 or fewer population located more than 20 miles from a medically served area.

MRPSP provides a means for rural Mississippi students to earn a seat in medical school, receive MCAT preparation valued at $2,000, earn a $120,000 medical school scholarship in return for four years of service and learn the art of healing from practicing rural physicians.

For more information, contact MRPSP Executive Director Dr. Wahnee Sherman at 601-815-9022, wsherman@umc.edu or http://mrpsp.umc.edu.

WEEK OF July 24, 2013

GED grads are all smiles at EC

Sisters Cindy Bozeman and Ellen Reilly of Little Rock were among the many GED graduates at ECCC Thursday night.

Rachel McCord of Newton

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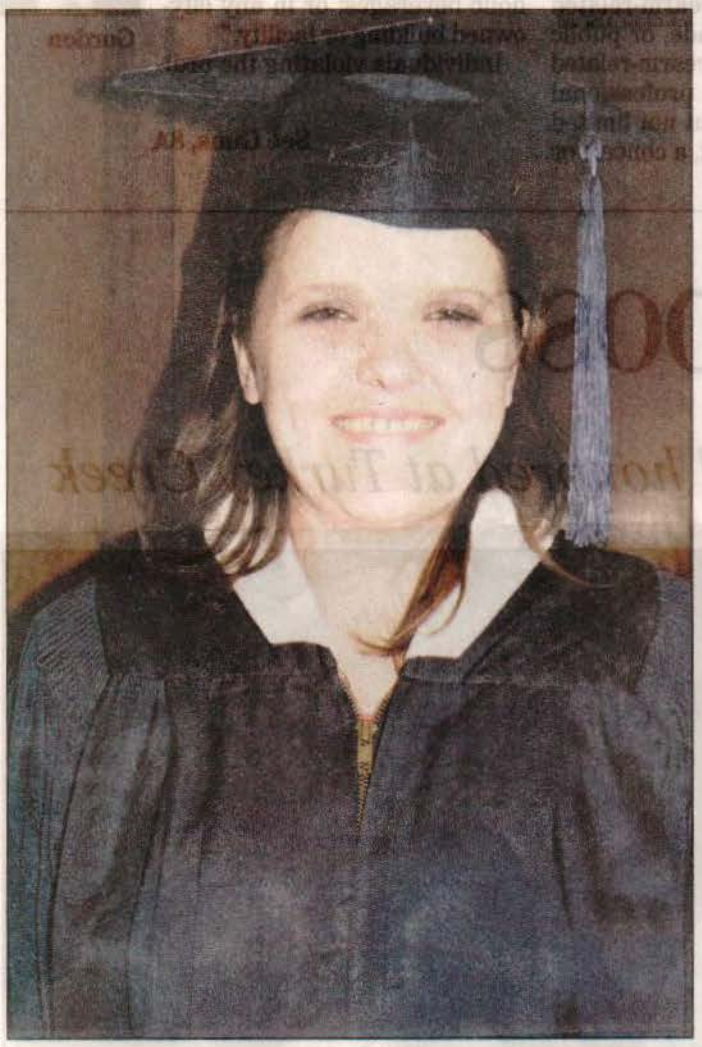
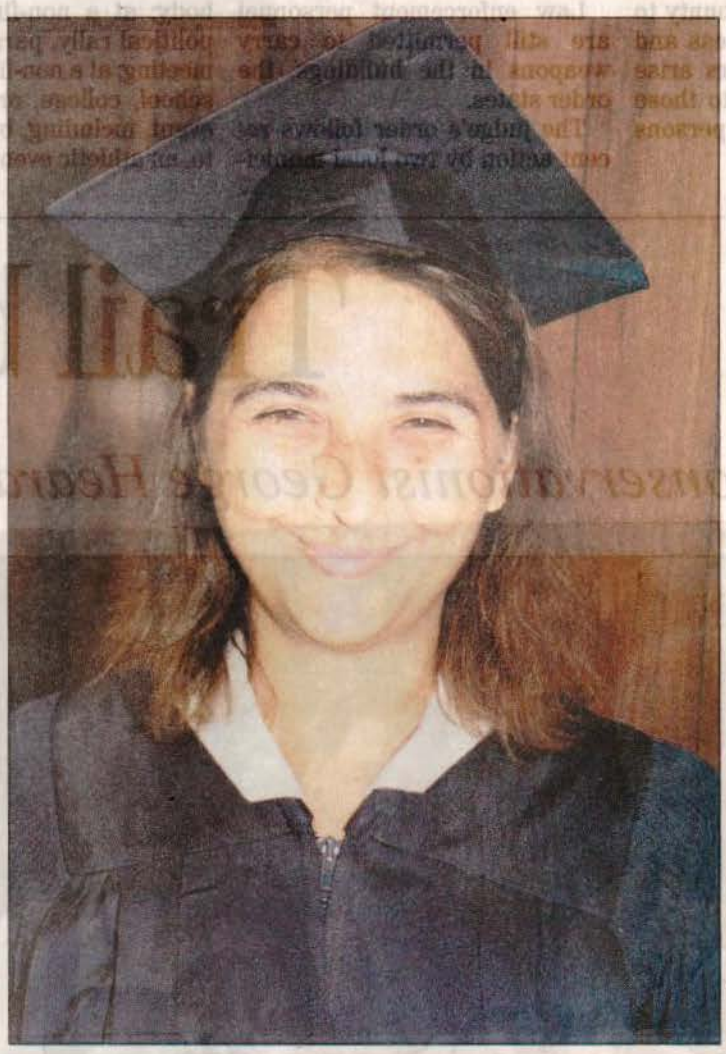


Ashley Morrow of Newton



Tania Marie Rhodes of Conehatta

WEEK OF July 31, 2013

ECCC students

These students were among those receiving Faculty Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held recently. Students and their respective awards include (front row, from left) Hannah McCurdy of Morton, Aaron R. Davis Memorial Award; Trevor Ayllon of Newton, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Science and Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry Award; Terrence Steele of Philadelphia, co-recipient, Jamie Clark Memorial Award for Baseball; Caleb McKee of Philadelphia, co-recipient, Jamie Clark Memorial Award for Baseball and J. Wallace Bedwell Business Award; Felica Robinson of Hickory, Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry and General William Patrick Wilson General Academic Scholarship; and Jacob Oliver of Little Rock, Shelby L. Harris Memorial; and (back row, from left) Jessica Barnett of Forest and Erin Wooten of Carthage, co-recipients of the Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo (yearbook) award; Joseph Aulds of Decatur, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering Award; Ivory Weldon, O.L. Newell Drafting Award; Tracie Buckley of Newton, co-recipient, L. B. Simmons History Award; Aderian Partain of Union, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Award; and Allie Killens, Leon Eubanks KALJYC-Peers. Not pictured are Chandler Smith of Philadelphia, Robert G. Fick Memorial; Cindy Burnside of Decatur, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology; and Kacey Smiley of Newton, co-recipient, L.B. Simmons History Award.

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recognized

These students were among those receiving 'special' awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held recently. Students and their respective awards include (front row, from left) Hunter Fortenberry of Forest, freshman mathematics; Ethan Pendergrass of Philadelphia, sophomore mathematics; Nathan Powell of Meridian, Dr. Margaret Mosal for Leadership; and Tiffany Dorman of Union, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education and Delta Kappa Gamma Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; and (back row, from left) McGee Ledbetter of Columbus and Erin Thornton of Walnut Grove, co-recipients, Roy Pete Award for Soccer; Morgan Parkes of Louisville, secondary education; Addreonna Seger of Newton, The Tom-Tom; and Rayanne Craven of Newton, Lucille Wood Scholarship. Not pictured are Latoya Steele of Meridian, Chelsea Gilmer of Philadelphia and Ashleigh Savage of Union, all recipients of MBEA (Mississippi Business Educators Association) Student Awards.

WEEK OF July 31, 2013

Scholarships awarded at

Chesly Ezell is the 2013 recipient of the Frances Brown Crenshaw Nursing Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. The Newton County High School product is shown with Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter.

Katie Bradley is the 2013 recipient of the ECCC Classes of 1957-58-59 Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. The Newton County High School product is shown with donor representative Nancy Haggard.

Savannah Glover is the 2013 recipient of the ECCC Class of 1964 Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. The Newton County Academy product is shown with 1964 class members (from left) John Boutwell, Jerald Everett, Dr. Harold Aycock and Bill Lea.

Victoria Malone (center) is the 2013 recipient of the Jessica Cager Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. The Union High School product is shown with Jessica's parents, Levelle and Inez Cager.

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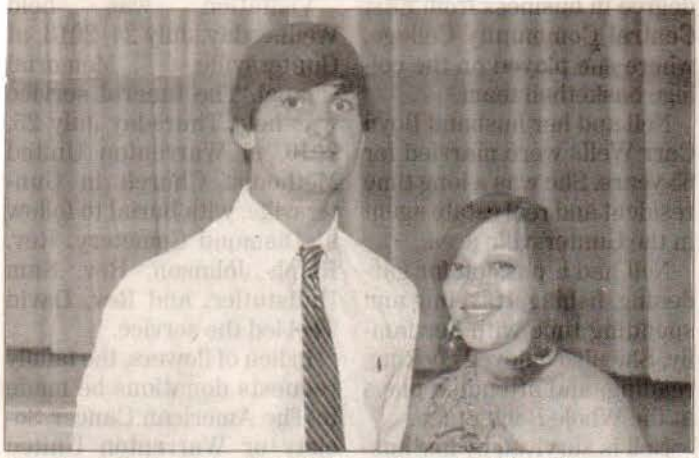

Jordan Walker is the 2013 recipient of the Harvey and Martha Wheeler Pre-Pharmacy/Pre-Medicine Scholarship provided at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Newton County High School product is shown with Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center director/recruiter.

Emily Bounds is the 2013 recipient of the BankPlus Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. The Newton County Academy graduate is shown with BankPlus representative Shonda Campbell.

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July 31, 2013

ECCC

Lacye Harrison is the 2013 recipient of The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. The Newton County High School product is shown with donor representative Ken Jones.

Delton Harrison (left) is the 2013 recipient of the AT&T Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. The Newton County High School product is shown with AT&T representative Tim Neal.

Aderian Partain is the 2013 recipient of the Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Newton County High School product is shown with donor representative Jeanette Thrash.

WEEK OF July 31, 2013 24

Land Bank scholar-

MS Land Bank Scholarship Recipient at ECCC

Zachary Allen (left) is the 2013 recipient of the Mississippi Land Bank Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Winston Academy product is shown with Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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Supervisors scholarship

Winston Student Presented MS Supervisors Scholarship at ECCC

Cara Jackson is the 2013 Winston County recipient of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. Jackson is a Nanih Waiya High School product.

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Tullos Hummel Scholarship recipient at ECCC

Chandler Smith, center, of Philadelphia is the 2013 recipient of the Martha Kate Tullos Hummel Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Newton County High School product is shown with donor representatives Don and Terraseta Hummel. (EC Photo)

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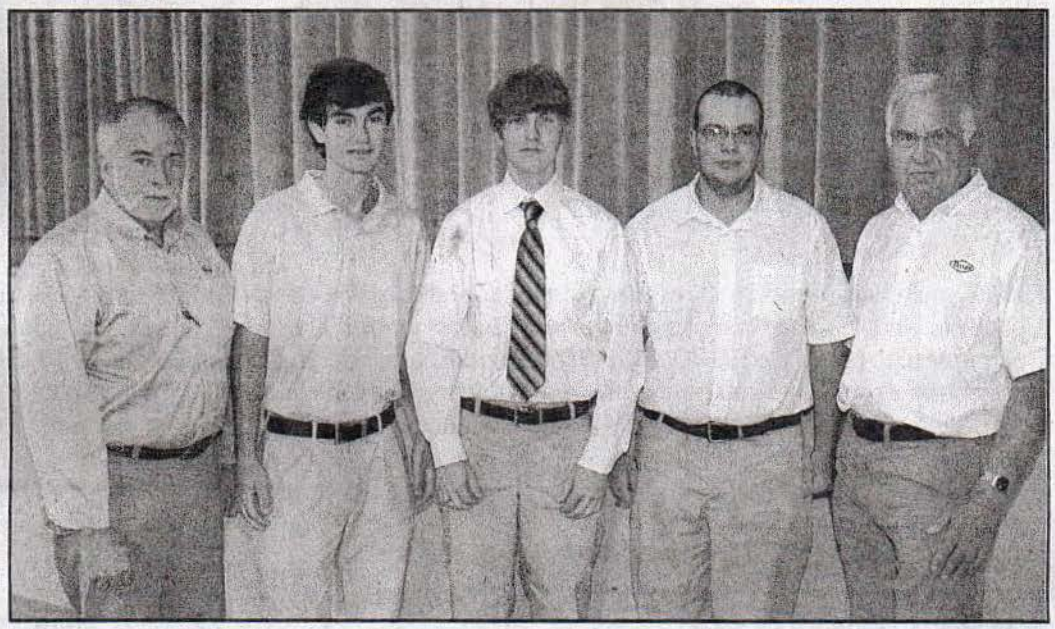

Taylor Scholarship recipient at ECCC

Harley Dennis, second from left, of Neshoba Central High School and Hank Bell, fourth from left, of Nanih Waiya Attendance Center are the 2013 recipients of Taylor Advanced Welding Scholarships, and John Lipsey, third from left, of Nanih Waiya is the 2013 recipient of the Taylor Advanced Machining Scholarship. They are shown with donor representatives Chuck Donald, left, and Rodis Shealy, right, of Taylor Machine Works in Louisville at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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Stovall Scholarship recipient at ECCC

Myeisha Jones, left, is the 2013 recipient of the Jacob Stovall Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Philadelphia High School product is shown with Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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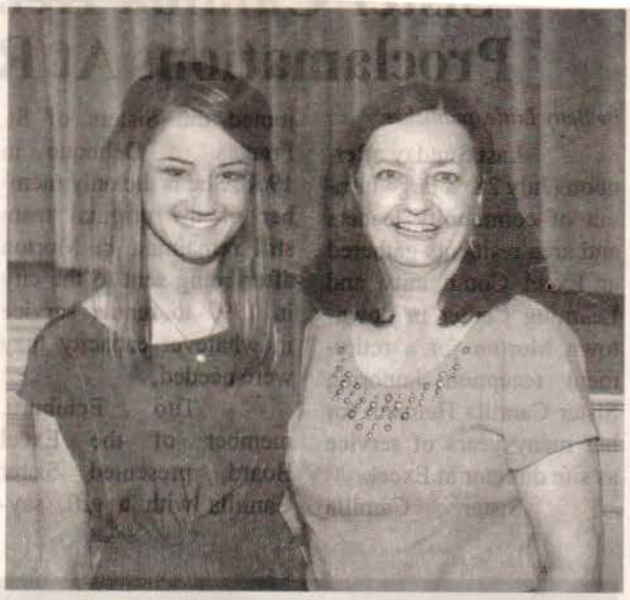

Davis Memorial Scholarship Recipient at ECCC

Hannah McCurdy (left) is the 2013 recipient of the Aaron R. Davis Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Morton High School product is shown with donor representative Patti Davis at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

Bank of Morton Scholarship Recipient at ECCC

Kara Yates (left) is the 2013 recipient of the Bank of Morton Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Morton High School graduate is shown with Bank of Morton representative Jackie Long at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

Scholarships

Boggan Scholarship Recipient at ECCC

James Cornelison (left) is the 2013 recipient of the Dr. Austin P. Boggan Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Morton High School product is shown with donor representatives Mrs. Iris Boggan (center) and Ada Boggan McGrevey at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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ECCC PHOTO

VOWELL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT AT ECCC

Ephraim Ringo (left) is the 2013 recipient of the Lavern and Elizabeth Vowell Memorial Scholarship provided at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Forest High School product is shown with Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center director/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony.

ECCC PHOTO

EC WARRIOR GOLF CLASSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Kristine Jenkins (left) is the 2013 recipient of the Warrior Golf Classic Alumni Association Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Forest High School product is shown with Alumni Association representative Lois Cooper at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donor and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony.

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Scholarship recipient

Elizabeth Curran, left, is the 2013 recipient of the Ben Myers Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Philadelphia High School product is shown with Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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Sam Rush Memorial Scholarship recipients at ECCC

Dakota Wright, left, and Kristy Bradley, center, are 2013 recipients of the Sam Rush Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Neshoba Central High School products are shown with Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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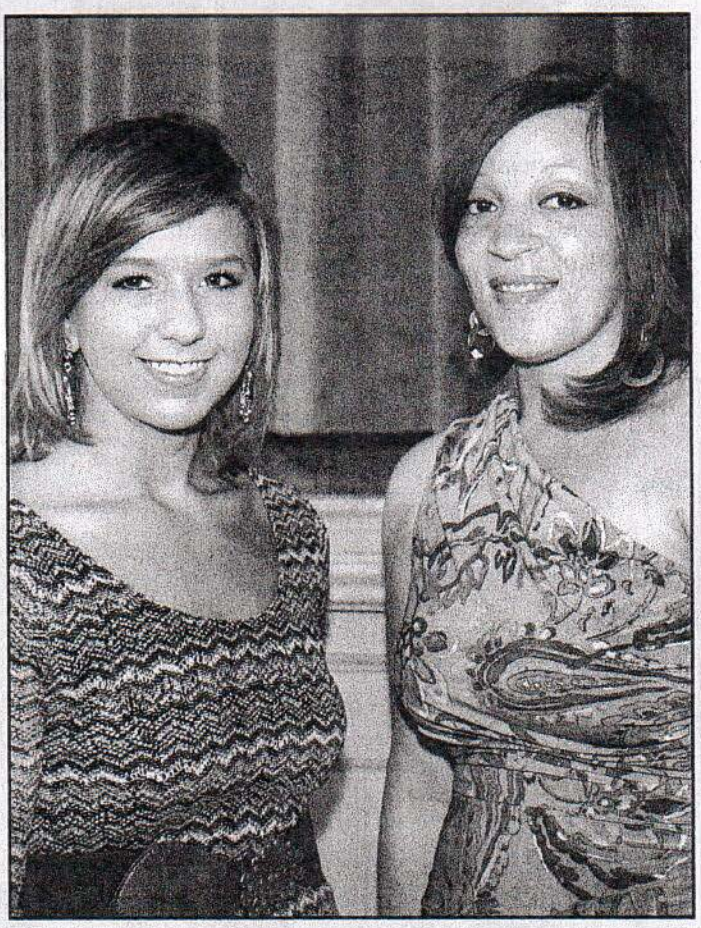

Scholarship recipient at ECCC

Bethany Jones, left, is the 2013 recipient of the US Electrical Motors Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Leake Academy product is shown with Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center director/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program. (EC Photo)

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Boswell scholarship

Boswell Scholarship Recipient at ECCC

Byron Hathorn (left) is the 2013 recipient of the Ernest Harrison Boswell Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Louisville High School product is shown with Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center director/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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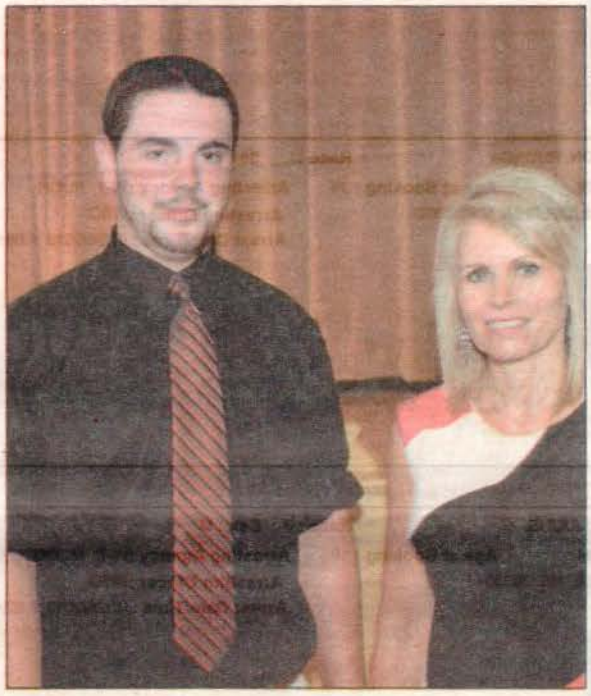
Hudspeth scholarship



Hudspeth Scholarship Recipient at ECCC

Clayborne Holdiness (left) is the 2013 recipient of the Hudspeth Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Nanih Waiya High School product is shown with Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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Covington scholarship

Covington Scholarship Recipient at ECCC

Haley Pierce (left) is the 2013 recipient of the W.R. Covington Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Noxapater Attendance Center product is shown with donor representative Wendy Smith at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

Board scholarship

ECCC Board of Trustees Scholarship Recipient

Alexander Bucklew (left) is the 2013 recipient of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees scholarship. The Winston Academy product is shown with Board Vice Chairman Jerry Smith of Philadelphia.

Haywood scholarship

Graham Haywood Scholarship Recipient at ECCC

Brody Richardson (left) is the 2013 recipient of the Sylvia Ann Graham Haywood Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Winston Academy product is shown with Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium.

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Renaud scholarship

Renaud Memorial Scholarship Recipient at ECCC

Jenna Lovorn (right) is the 2013 recipient of the Shirley Renaud Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Winston Academy product is shown with donor representatives Nona and Joe Renaud at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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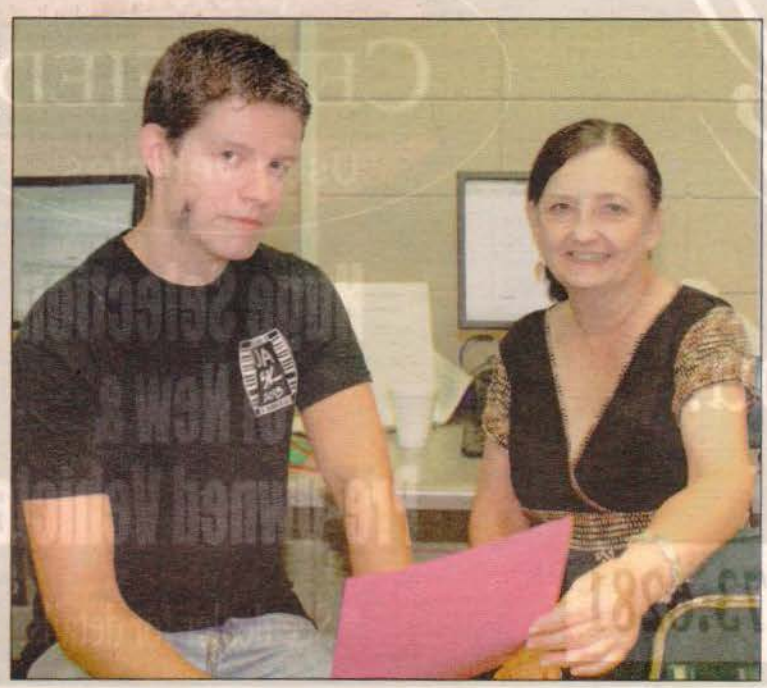
Orientation time



Reel Attends ECCC Orientation

Andrew Reel (left) was among area students who attended orientation activities held July 12, 2013, at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Nanih Waiya High School product is shown receiving assistance from biology instructor Patti Davis as they plan his class schedule for the 2013 fall semester. During orientation, participants can also have photos made for ID badges and the College yearbook, apply for a parking decal and complete online orientation. A final orientation session for new and transfer students planning to attend the 2013 fall semester will be held Friday, August 9. Fall classes begin Wednesday, August 14. For more information, contact Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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ECCC PHOTO

Teelisa Kennedy (left) of Forest was among area students who attended orientation activities held July 12 at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Scott Central High School product is shown receiving assistance from biology instructor George Alexander as they plan her class schedule for the 2013 fall semester. Kennedy was a standout on the Scott Central Lady Rebels basketball team which won two state championships during Kennedy's tenure.

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WEEK OF August 7, 2013

Willis among ECCC orientation participants

Melody Willis, right, of Philadelphia was among area students who attended orientation activities held July 12, at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Neshoba Central High School product is shown receiving assistance from associate degree nursing program instructor Sherri Cantey as they plan her class schedule for the 2013 fall semester. During orientation, participants can also have photos made for ID badges and the College yearbook, apply for a parking decal and complete online orientation. A final orientation session for new and transfer students planning to attend the 2013 fall semester will be held Friday, August 9. Fall classes begin Wednesday, August 14. For more information, contact Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF August 7, 2013

Career center scholars

East Central Community College presented Career Technical Scholarships to these students recently at the Newton County Career and Technical Center Award's Program, front row, from left: Chay Chapman, Destinee Buckley, Mak Rowzee, and Haleigh West; second row, from left: Tori Bruno, Amy May, Daniel Giles, and Charles Wansley; third row, from left: Courtney Tillman, Casey Parker, Katie Sanford, and LaVonte Buckley; fourth row, from left: Faith Westberry, Hannah Mitchell, Acea Ange, and Sarah Freeman; fifth row, from left: Mackenzie Gannon and Rivers Franklin; back row, from left: Matthew Cress, Houston Martin, Charles Thorne, and William Howington.

APPEARED IN:

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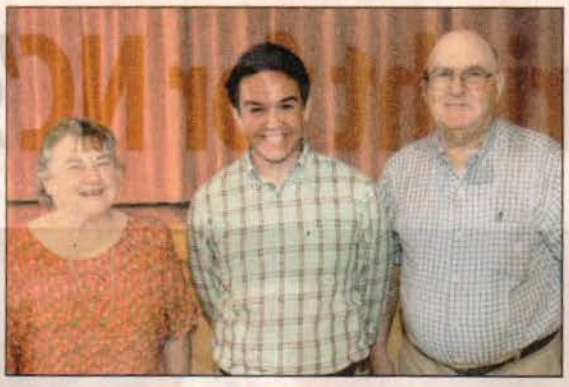
August 7, 2013

awarded at ECCC



DeeJay Rolison is the 2013 recipient of the Charles P. and Bonnie Saxon Phillips Scholarship presented at ECCC. The Newton County High product is shown with donor representatives Glenda and Charles Malone.

Katie Brackeen is the 2013 recipient of the Denver Brackeen Scholarship presented at ECCC. The Newton County High product is shown with Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter.

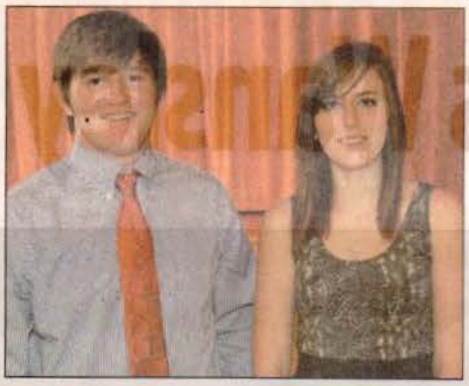
Tyler Spence is the 2013 recipient of the La-Z-Boy Scholarship presented at ECCC. The Newton County High product is shown with donor representatives Julie Rowzee and Tom Keith.

Casey Cherry is the 2013 recipient of the Johnson-Taylor Memorial Scholarship presented at ECCC. The Union High product is shown with donor representatives the Rev. and Mrs. Bruce Taylor.

WEEK OF August 7 2013

Scholarships

Aaren Avera is the 2013 recipient of the Willis E. Blum and Frances Gaines Blum Slagle Memorial Scholarship presented at ECCC. The Newton County High product is shown with donor representative Carole Pace Henry.



John Reiss of Newton County Academy and Abbey Rigdon of Union High School are the 2013 recipients of Newton Rotary Club Scholarships presented at ECCC.

Julian Fuentes is 2013 recipient of the William Wade Long Memorial Scholarship presented at ECCC. The Newton County High product is shown with donor representatives Gail Long and Rusty Long.

Katy Ezelle is the 2013 recipient of the Kinoth and Ella Mae Thornton/Emerson Electric Scholarship provided at ECCC. The Newton County High product is shown with donor representatives Mr. and Mrs. Kinoth Thornton.

Paige Wall is the 2013 recipient of the Roscoe C. Pugh Memorial Scholarship presented at ECCC.

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(continued from previous page)

WEEK OF August 7, 2013

STUDENTS from page A7

Dorothy Copeland – Ashley Cumberland, Neshoba Central; Ben Myers Memorial – Elizabeth Curran, Philadelphia and Allison Johnson, Neshoba Central; Pleas Clayton and Amanda Breazeale Blount – Sam Davis, Leake Academy; Taylor Advanced Welding – Harley Dennis, Neshoba Central; ATCO Loans, Inc., - Kesicia Dickinson, Leake County; East Central Scholars (EC Alumni Association) – Alec Doggett, Leake Central; James E. Land – Courtney Elliott, Union; MS Association of Supervisors (Leake County) – Kristen Evans, Leake Academy and Emily Cook and Raney Morgan, both of Leake Central; Kinoth and Ella Mae Thornton/Emerson Electric – Katy Ezelle, Newton County; Jeffrey G. and Kathy L. Hitt Memorial – Dominick Fields, Forest;

William Wade Long Memorial – Julian Fuentes, Newton County; Jack and Mary Jo White – Mackenzie Gannon, Newton County; MS Association of Supervisors (Scott County) – Whitney Garrett, Lake; Bailey Easterling, Scott Central; and Kimberly Harrison, Forest; Dr. Frank and Bobbie McPhail Bowen – Anna Girling, Leake Central; T. T. Beemon – Danielle Gregory, Newton County; Dan Harrison Memorial – Stafford Griffin, Leake Central; Russell McCann Memorial – Jennifer Grove, East Rankin Academy; AT&T – Delton Harrison, Newton County; Citizens Bank of Philadelphia - Lacye Harrison, Newton County; Regina Gail Gibbs Rigby Memorial – Kimberly Harrison, Forest; Ernest Harrison Boswell Memorial – Byron Hathorn, Louisville; MS Automotive Manufacturers Association – Wesley Hines, Lake and Cody Smith, Leake Central;

Nellie Neill Cross Memorial –Jonathon Hodge, Lake; Hudspeth – Clayborne Holdiness, Nanih Waiya; Kyle Dunkerson Memorial – Shelby Horn, Newton County; MS Association of Supervisors (Winston County) – Cara Jackson, Jessica Richardson and Warner Parkes, all of Nanih Waiya; Warrior Golf Classic Alumni Association – Kristine Jenkins, Forest and Makenzie Rowzee, Newton County; Jacob Stovall Memorial – Myeisha Jones, Philadelphia; Jones and Carrie Williamson and Bascom and Hattie Chisolm Memorial – Sherry Nash, Leake Central; U.S. Electrical Motors – Bethany Jones, Leake Academy; Dr. Beverly Oliphant-Martin and John E. Martin – Makayla Kelly, Nederland; Weems Family – Rachel Laird – Homeschool;

Taylor Advanced Machining – John Lipsey, Nanih Waiya; Shirley Renaud Memorial – Jenna Lovorn, Winston Academy; Jessica Cager Memorial – Victoria Malone, Union; Willis W. "Bubba" Smith Memorial – Houston Martin, Newton County; Polk and Jennie Pace – Dylan Mayes, Lake; Clyde B. and Flossie H. Goodson – Walter McCool, Neshoba Central; Thomas Rudolph Mayes Memorial – Shelby McKelvaine, Enterprise; Jay B. and Frances Harris Smith – Justin Moore, Leake Academy; Dr. L. B. and Dixie Adkins – Joshua Parker, McComb; Hubert D. Gilmore – Trystan Parker, Newton County; Larry B. Therrell Memorial – Hannah Peoples, Leake Academy; Mable Moore Carr Educational – Lauren Peterson, Forest; W. R. Covington – Haley Pierce, Noxapater; Ruth Round Volunteer – Chelsea Pilgrim, Newton County; Charles and Judy Dowdle Thomas – Sabrina Prince, Philadelphia; Newton Rotary Club – Abbey Rigdon, Union and John Reiss, Newton County Academy;

Lavern and Elizabeth Vowell Memorial – Ephraim Ringo, Forest; Charles P. and Bonnie Saxon Phillips – Darrin Rolison, Newton County; Harrison Memorial – Makenzie Rowzee, Lacye Harrison and Delton Harrison, all of Newton County; Wilks-Palmer Scholars – Brooke Smith, Noxapater; East Central Scholars (Thomas) Brittany Taylor, Lake; Arno and Ruth Carr Vincent – Charles Thorne, Newton County; Wallace Strickland – Haleigh West, Newton County; James M. Vance – Hanna Williams, Sebastopol; R.O. and Bertha Hannah – Keifer Wolfe, Lake; Bank of Morton – Kara Yates, Morton; Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood – Trevor Ayllon, Newton County; Coach Ken Pouncey Memorial – Conor Bell, Leake Central; Denver Brackeen – Katie Brackeen, Newton County; Classes of 1957-58-59 – Katie Bradley, Newton County; Rev. John Lambert Neill Memorial – Kennedy Castleberry, Clarkdale; Johnson-Taylor Memorial – Casey Cherry, Union; Sue Gunter Memorial – Erika Clark, Neshoba Central; State Farm Insurance Company – Gary Cooksey, Lake; Alumni Association Lifetime Membership – Aaron Cooper, Morton; Lucille Wood – Rayanne Craven – Newton County Academy; Myrtle R. Hutchison – Tiffany Dorman, Neshoba Central; Elva Smith Sigrest Memorial and S. Lebrun Hutchison – Shawn Evans, Forest; Frances Brown Crenshaw Nursing – Chelsy Ezell, Newton County; Class of 1964 – Savannah Glover, Newton County Academy; Kelley Humphreys Nursing – Alisha Jones, Carthage; Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers – Allie Killens, Saltillo; Hogue Brantley – Traci Lewis, Scott Central; Robert J. Moody, Jr. Special Education – Morgan Luke, Newton County; Aaron R. Davis Memorial – Hannah McCurdy, Morton; Dr. Shelby L. Harris Memorial – Jacob Oliver, Newton County; Thomas W. Thrash Memorial – Aderian Partain, Newton County; Dr. Margaret Mosal Memorial – Nathan Powell, Enterprise; Tony Dobbs Memorial – Emily Price, Sebastopol; Edwin and Marie Lowe - Angela Reeves, Decatur; General William Patrick Wilson Memorial – Felica Robinson, Newton County; Martha Kate Tullos Hummel and Robert G. Fick Memorial – Chandler Smith, Newton County;

Iris Pellegrene Boggan – Hailey Smith, Neshoba Central; Landon Bryan Burt Memorial – Jesse Vaughn, Newton County; Harvey and Martha Wheeler Pre-Pharmacy/Pre-Med – Jordan Walker, Newton County; Roscoe C. Pugh Memorial – Paige Wall, Newton County; Richard L. Harris – Nathan Williams, Union; Johnson Family Engineering – Bryant Williams, Newton County; Fred Preston Dallas and Maudie Threatt Dallas Memorial and Opal McMullan Dickerson Memorial – Hillary Williams, Neshoba Central; Ann H. Burkes PTK – Bryant Williams, Newton County; Sylvia Ann Graham Haywood Memorial - Brody Richardson, Winston Academy; Stella Weathersby Newsome – Sarina Murry, USM; Nancy Auline Hiett ADN – Angela Reeeves, Decatur; and New Directions – Jennifer Collins, Newton.

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August 7, 2013

Three local students among honorees at ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program

Special to The Star

DECATUR – Attending East Central Community College became even more affordable for approximately 130 students who received scholarships presented at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held earlier this summer on the Decatur campus.

Provided by numerous alumni, individuals, businesses and industries, the ECCC Foundation scholarships are valued at $71,340, according to Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

"The ECCC Foundation would like to thank our donors who continue to support the scholarship program," said Dr. Hollingsworth. "We also encourage others to establish scholarships and help meet the financial needs of our future alumni."

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart provided remarks at the annual event and expressed appreciation to donors for their support and congratulations to scholarship recipients. Dr. Randall E. Lee, vice president for Student Services, served as master of ceremonies.

Cantey

West Lauderdale High School's Lauren Cantey, Clarkdale High School student Kennedy Castleberry and Meridian home school student Rachel Laird were among the scholarship recipients. Scholarships presented and the respective recipients/high schools are as follows:

Castleberry

Albert F. and Fannie Mae Hollingsworth – Samantha Adams, Lake; Mississippi Land Bank – Zachary Allen, Winston Academy; Willis E. Blum and Frances Gaines Blum Slagle Memorial – Aaren Avera, Newton County; Taylor Advanced Welding – Hansel Bell, Nanih Waiya; La-Z-Boy – Glenn Bender Jr., Newton and Tyler Spence, Newton County; Cox and Associates Insurance- Kaitlyn Blanton, Leake Academy and Emily Cook, Leake Central; BankPlus – Emily Bounds, Newton County Academy and Aaron Brown, Newton County; Sam Rush Memorial – Kristy Bradley and Dakota Wright, both of Neshoba Central; Andrew Wilson Lathem – Jonathan Brown, Leake Central; ECCC Board of Trustees – Alexander Bucklew, Winston Academy; JC White – Lauren Cantey, West Lauderdale; MS Association of Supervisors (Newton County) Nicole Carter, Alana Kron and Tabitha LaBue, all of Newton County;

Laird

Frances Aycock Johnson and JoAnn Aycock Thomas – Dustie Chisolm, Sylva-Bay Academy;

Mississippi Association of Supervisors (Neshoba County) – Hunter Coley, Caleb McCown and Hannah Pilgrim, all of Neshoba Central; Captain Charles E. Ward USN/RET Memorial – Noah Corcoran, Winston Academy; Dr. Austin P. Boggan – James Cornelison, Morton; Prentice and

See STUDENTS on page A8

Students to receive EC scholarships

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Scholarships presented and the respective recipients from Scott County include:

- Albert F. and Fannie Mae Hollingsworth - Samantha Adams, Lake; Jeffrey G. and Kathy L. Hitt Memorial – Dominick Fields, Forest.
- Mississippi Association of Supervisors (Scott County) – Whitney Garrett, Lake; Bailey Easterling, Scott Central; and Kimberly Harrison, Forest.
- Regina Gail Gibbs Rigby Memorial – Kimberly Harrison, Forest; Nellie Neill Cross Memorial –Jonathon Hodge, Lake; Warrior Golf Classic Alumni Association – Kristine Jenkins, Forest.
- Polk and Jennie Pace – Dylan Mayes, Lake; Mable Moore Carr Educational – Lauren Peterson, Forest.
- Lavern and Elizabeth Vowell Memorial – Ephraim Ringo, Forest.
- East Central Scholars (Thomas) Brittany Taylor, Lake; James M. Vance – Hanna Williams, Sebastopol; R.O. and Bertha Hannah – Keifer Wolfe, Lake; Bank of Morton – Kara Yates, Morton.
- State Farm Insurance Company – Gary Cooksey, Lake; Alumni Association Lifetime Membership – Aaron Cooper, Morton.
- Elva Smith Sigrest Memorial and S. Lebrun Hutchison – Shawn Evans, Forest.
- Hogue Brantley – Traci Lewis, Scott Central; Aaron R. Davis Memorial – Hannah McCurdy, Morton; Tony Dobbs Memorial – Emily Price, Sebastopol.

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her email address, is sholling@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF AUGUST 7, 2013

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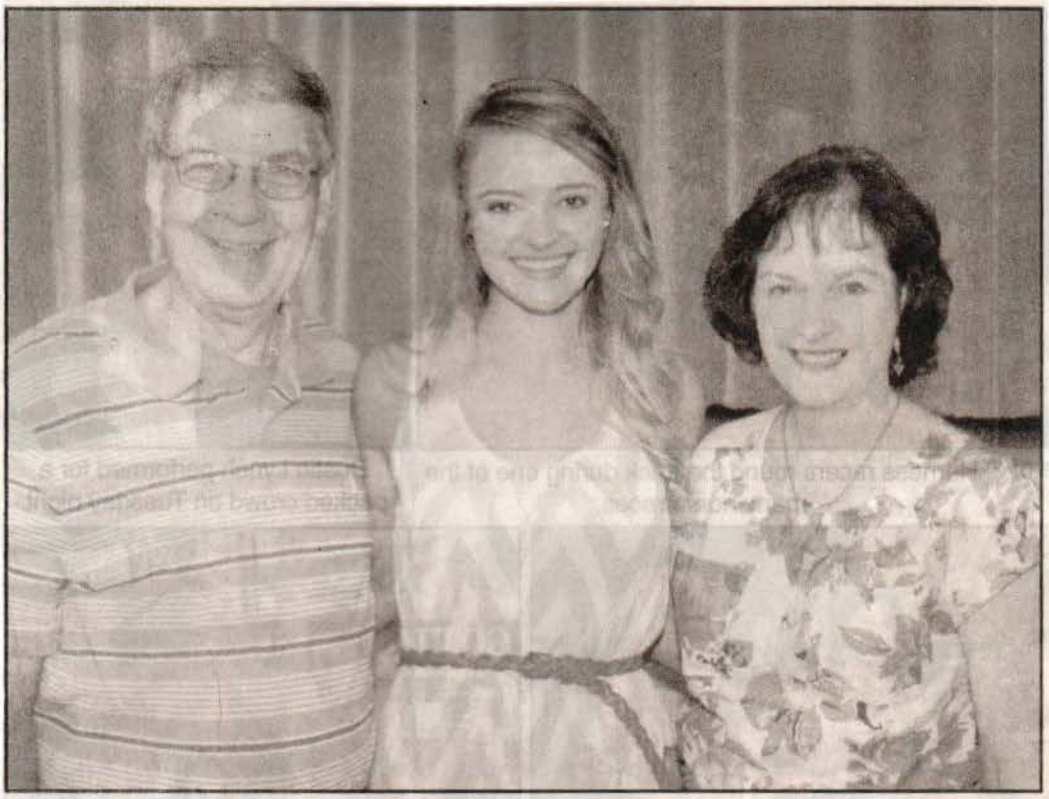
WEEK OF August 3, 2013



Johnson-Taylor Memorial Scholarship recipient

Casey Cherry, center, is the 2013 recipient of the Johnson-Taylor Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Union High School product is shown with donor representatives the Rev. and Mrs. Bruce Taylor at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF August 7, 2013

Eubanks scholarship recipient at ECCC

Allie Killens, left, of Philadelphia is the 2013 recipient of the Leon Eubanks KALJYC-PEERS Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Saltillo High School product is shown with Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center director/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF August 7, 2013

ECCC Board of Trustees scholarship recipient

Alexander Bucklew, left, is the 2013 recipient of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees scholarship. The Winston Academy product is shown with Board Vice Chairman Jerry Smith of Philadelphia at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 14 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Aug. 7, 2013

Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC

Ready to begin a new chapter in their lives are the above students who received their high school equivalency diplomas at the semi-annual GED Graduation ceremony held July 18, 2013, at East Central Community College in Decatur. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart presented diplomas during the special program held in Huff Auditorium. The Rev. Mark Vincent, pastor of Clarke-Venable Church, served as guest speaker. Providing testimonials were Brittany Perkins, David Hebert and Steven Hampton. Other program participants were Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction and Natalie Emmons, music instructor, both of ECCC; and Edward McGowan, an Adult Basic Education/GED/ESL instructor. GED graduates include (first row, from left) Kimberly Nowell, Philadelphia; Kristen Yarbrough, Louisville; Noel Waggoner, Forest; Jackqulynn Ables, Morton; Barbara Ables, Crystal Springs; Ellen Reilly, Union; Roshonda Needom, Walnut Grove; Ashley Morrow, Newton; Tiffany Hayes, Lake; Brittany Jones, Morton; and Casey Sammons, Carthage; (second row, from left) Cornelius Dan, Choctaw; Casey Harrell, Lena; Tania Rhodes, Conehatta; Jeyde Fitzgerald, Brandon; Derangelos Anderson, Lake; Samantha Jolly, Lena; Cindy Bozeman, Union; Meghan Wheeler, Lena; Freddie Johnson, Pelahatchie; Brittany Perkins, Carthage; Franchesca Rankin, Forest; and Rachel McCord, Lawrence; (third row, from left) Stephen McCulloch, Macon; Alisha McClelland, Philadelphia; Samuel Hill, Louisville; Tyler Ricks, Carthage; David Herbert, Louisville; Andrena Alford, Morton; Lanisha Bridges, Forest; Bryan Drury, Philadelphia; Sid Nichols, Forest; Tina Emmons, Pelahatchie; Claude Epting, Jr., Morton; and Rosemary Lum, Forest; and (fourth row, from left) Cristie Carter, Louisville; Celia Hathorne, Morton; Reginal Brown, Noxapater; David Atkison, Morton; Rickey Adams, Clinton; Brandon Weaver, Forest; Justin Stuart, Morton; Jamison Davis, Lake; Desmond Rush, Philadelphia; Ocean Roberson and Stephen Hampton, both of Louisville; and Cappi Reese, Philadelphia. Not pictured is Alana Goodin of Philadelphia. ECCC offers free ABE/GED/ESL classes throughout the College's support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, Director of Adult Basic Education and GED Testing, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His email address is rclarke@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF August 8, 2013

Brown wins Lathem Scholarship

Jonathan Brown, left, is the 2013 recipient of the Andrew Wilson Lathem Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Leake Central High School product is shown with Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center director/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Aug 11 2013

EC scholar

Trevor Ayllon is the 2013 recipient of the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. The Newton County High School product is shown with donor representatives Judy Leatherwood and Frank E. Leatherwood II.

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Nash earns ECCC scholarship

Sherry Nash, left, is the 2013 recipient of the Jones and Carrie Williamson and Bascom and Hattie Chisolm Memorial Scholarship provided at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Leake Central High School product is shown with Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center director/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Aug. 11, 2013

ECCC Practical Nursing Program Graduates

Graduates of East Central Community College's Practical Nursing Program received recognition at recent pinning ceremonies. Completing the 12-month program were, from left, first row Sannella Payton, Union; Latoria Boler, Carthage; Deborah Williams, Newton; Betty Tucker, Morton; Kimberly Kendrick, Carthage; second, Paula Bounds, Hickory; Brittany Pinter, Forest; Lacey Johnson, Philadelphia; Susan Jackson, Sebastopol; third, Jackie Hogue, Sebastopol; Summar Fortenberry, and Briana Spears, both of Philadelphia; Amber Thaggard, Carthage; Kenisha Carter, Louisville. Also on hand are, fourth, practical nursing instructors Christy Wilson, Theresa Cole and Violet Lambert.

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WEEK OF 5-15-13

EC scholars

Houston Martin is the 2013 recipient of the Willis W. "Bubba" Smith Memorial Scholarship at ECCC.

Danielle Gregory is the 2013 recipient of the T.T. Beemon Scholarship at ECCC.

Angela Reeves is the 2013 recipient of the Edwin and Marie Lowe Scholarship at ECCC.

Bryant Williams is the 2013 recipient of the Johnson Family Engineering Scholarship at ECCC.

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WEEK OF 8-18-13

Fick Memorial Scholarship recipient at EC

Chandler Smith, left, of Philadelphia is the 2013 recipient of the Robert G. Fick Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. (EC Photo)

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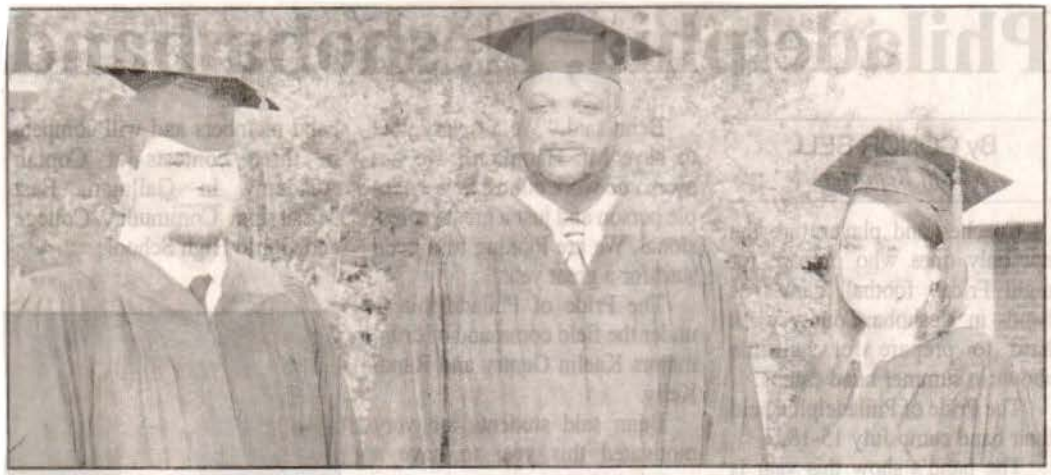
WEEK OF 8-18-13



Provide testimonials at ECCC's GED graduation

Recent graduates, from left, David Hebert and Stephen Hampton, both of Louisville, and Brittany Perkins of Carthage provided testimonials at the semi-annual GED graduation held July 18, at East Central Community College in Decatur. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 8-25-12

Jones wins Humphreys award

Alisha Jones, left, is the recipient of the Kelley Humphreys Nursing Scholarship provided at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Carthage Attendance Center product is shown with donor representative Ray Humphreys at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 8-25-13

ECCC scholarship winner

Bethany Jones, left, is the 2013 recipient of the US Electrical Motors Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Leake Academy product is shown with Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center director/recruiter, at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program. A luncheon for donors and scholarship recipients followed in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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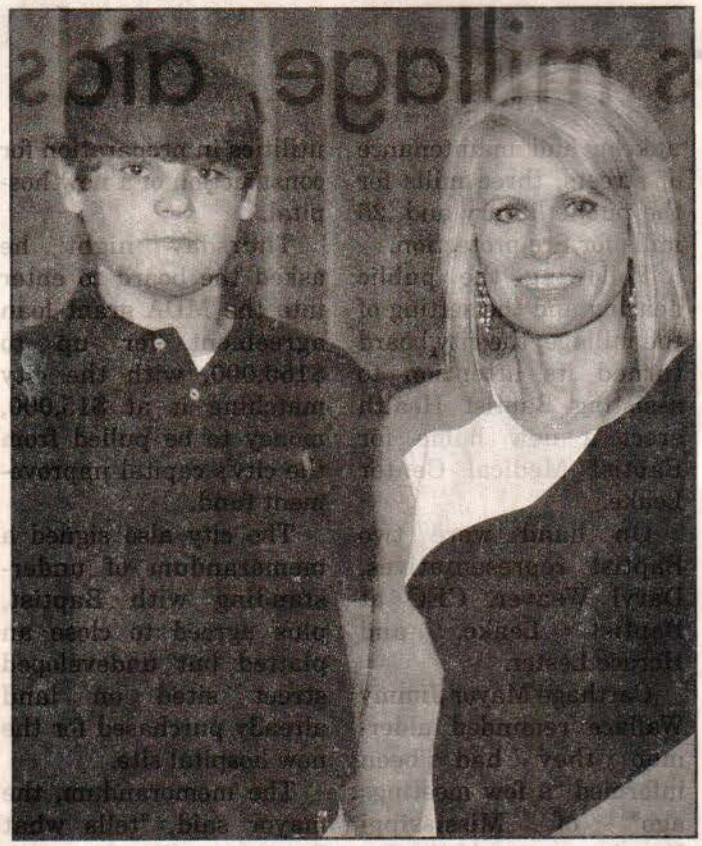
WEEK OF 5-25-13



Harris Smith scholarship winner

Justin Moore, left, is the 2013 recipient of the Jay B. and Frances Harris Smith Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Leake Academy product is shown with Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program . Approximately 130 students received ECCC Foundation scholarships valued at $71,340 at the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 8-25-13

ECCC scholarships awarded

Morgan Luke (third from left) is the 2013 recipient of the Robert J. Moody, Jr. Special Education Scholarship provided at East Central Community College. The Newton County High School product is shown with donor representatives Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Moody and their son Robert, Jr.

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8-25-13

Jesse Vaughn (center) is the 2013 recipient of the Landon Bryan Burt Memorial Scholarship presented at ECCC. The Newton County High product is shown with Landon's parents, Bryan and Mary Burt.

WEEK OF 8-25-13

Former ECCC students receive rural physicians scholarships

special to The Star

DECATUR – Two recent graduates of East Central Community College were accepted into the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program.

William Meruvia and Meghan Johnson were selected to participate in the undergraduate portion of the prestigious program. Both are members of the ECCC Class of 2013.

"East Central is so proud of William and Meghan on their selection for participation in this prestigious scholarship program," said ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. "It is a direct reflection on their hard work and dedication to scholarship and academic achievement. It is also a reflection of the quality instruction provided by faculty at East Central. We are proud that two of the 17 college sophomores chosen from across the state to participate in this program are recent EC graduates. Also, knowing both William and Meghan, they will make their families and their East Central family proud. We look forward to celebrating with them in the future when they become Dr. Meruvia and Dr. Johnson."

Meruvia

Meruvia, a Neshoba Central High School product, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Osvaldo Meruvia of Philadelphia.

Johnson is a Leake Academy graduate and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Johnson of Lena.

Created in 2007, the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program identifies up to 20 college sophomores "who demonstrate the necessary commitment and academic achievement to become competent, well-trained rural primary care physicians in our state," according to Dr. Wahnee Sherman, MRPSP executive director.

The program offers two years of undergraduate academic enrichment including MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) preparation and a clinical experience in a rural setting. Upon completion of all medical school admissions requirements, students will be admitted to the University of Mississippi School of Medicine through Direct Entry.

During medical school, each MRPSP scholar may receive $30,000 per year based on available funding. Consistent legislative support of MRPSP translates to 50 medical students receiving a total of $1,500,000 to support their education this fall. Additional benefits include personalized mentoring from practicing rural physicians and academic support.

Johnson

Upon completion of the training, MRPSP Scholars must enter a residency program in one of five primary care specialties: family medicine, general internal medicine, medicine-pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology or pediatrics.

The MRPSP Scholar must provide four years of service in a clinic-based practice in an approved Mississippi community of 20,000 or fewer population located more than 20 miles from a medically served area.

MRPSP provides a means for rural Mississippi students to earn a seat in medical school, receive MCAT preparation valued at $2,000, earn a $120,000 medical school scholarship in return for four years of service and learn the art of healing from practicing rural physicians.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 8-25-13

EC scholars

Newton County High School products Nicole Cater and Tabitha LaBue are the 2013 Newton County recipients of Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. They are shown with Newton County Board of Supervisors president Joe Alexander and his wife Laurie.

The Newton County Appeal welcomes news submissions. To submit a story, email it to bgraham@newtoncountyappeal.cc or drop it off at our Union or Newton location.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Oct 1, 2013

Freeman plays in FFA Band

Sarah Freeman, a member of the Newton County FFA chapter in Decatur will be on stage and in the spotlight Oct. 30-Nov. 2 during the 2013 National FFA Convention and Expo in Louisville, Ky. Freeman, a freshman at East Central Community College, and the daughter of Jerry and Deborah Freeman, has been selected to play saxophone in the National FFA Band. Freeman submitted an audition tape and was selected to help bring full instrumental balance to the band. The National FFA Band will perform several times during the 2013 National FFA Convention and Expo. Approximately 80 students were selected to be a part of this prestigious band. Freeman will join fellow band members in Louisville three days before the event for rehearsals. The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 557,318 student members in grades seven through 12 who belong to one of 7,498 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Sept. 1, 2013

Neshoba GED graduates at ECCC

These Neshoba County residents received their high school equivalency diplomas at the semi-annual GED graduation held July 18, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are front, from left, Kimberly Nowell of Philadelphia, Casey Sammons of Carthage of Cornelius Dan of Choctaw; and back row, Cappi Reese, Alisha McClelland, Bryan Drury and Desmond Rush, all of Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 8 Sept. 1, 2013

ECCC nursing graduates

These recent graduates of East Central Community College's Practical Nursing Program received special recognition at the program's annual pinning ceremony held recently. Completing the 12-month program are (first row, from left) Sannella Payton, Latoria Boler, Deborah Williams, Betty Tucker, and Kimberly Kendrick, (second row, from left) Paula Bounds, Brittany Pinter, Lacey Johnson, and Susan Jackson, (third row, from left) Jackie Hogue, Summar Fortenberry, and Briana Spears, Amber Thaggard, and Kenisha Carter. Tucker was the featured speaker and was selected Practical Nursing Student of the Year. Also pictured are Practical Nursing instructors (fourth row, from left) Christy Wilson, Theresa Cole and Violet Lambert.

APPEARED IN:

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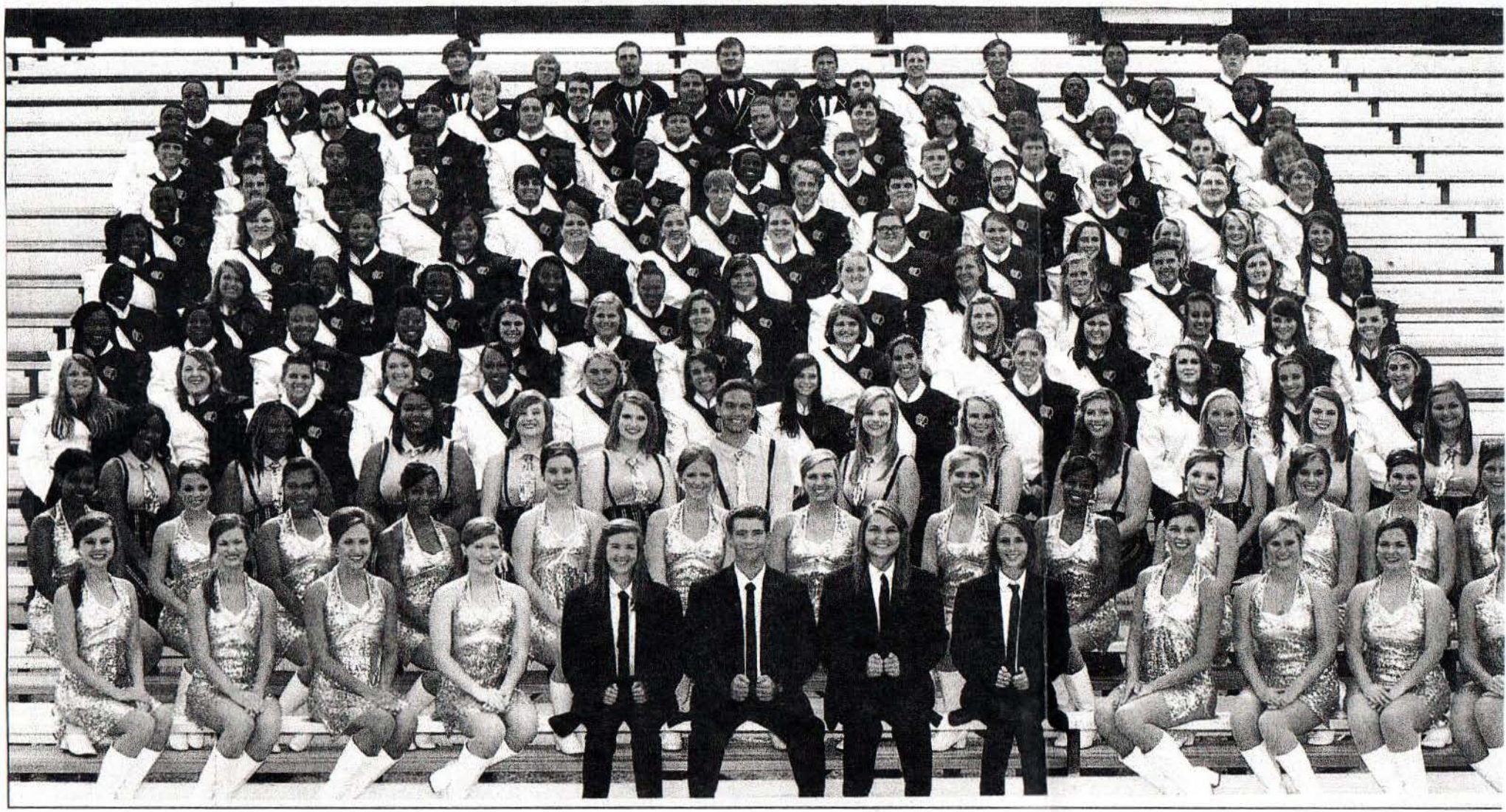
Sept. 1, 2013

ECCC Wall O' Sound Marching Band



OF

Above are members of the 2013 East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band. Pictured are (first row, from left) Kayla Covington, Emilee Cox, Ka
Johnson, Emma Burton, Katie Sanford, Nathan Williams, Emily Jacome-Cluff, Sarah Hall, Emily Gully, Caitlyn Sant, Kelsey Cox, Kellie Boulton, (second row, from l
ohnnie Slaughter, Grayson Harrell, Davita Ragsdale, Joni Hickman, Emily Cook, Hannah Mitchell, Mackenzie Gannon, Jordan Lovorn, Hillary Williams, Cara Jackson,
Moffett, Kasey Logan, Taylor Gressett, (third row, from left) Kierra Stewart, Brittany Foster, MaChasity Leflore, Livi Harrison, Gloriana Latham, Deejay Rolinso
Cater, Torie Quinn, Katy Ezelle, Shelby Horn, Heather Bradley, Katherine Jacome-Cluff, (fourth row, from left) Faith Emmons, Samantha Farley, Elora Nicholas,
Hollingsworth, Symone Ickom, Haley Taylor, Sarah LaBue, Katie Bradley Tabby LaBue, Sarah Freeman, Mattie Brooks Emily Crane, Sarah Thorne, (fifth row, fr
Aaliyah Cook, Kasia McQueen, Tiffany Flowers, Kenshela Boyd, Taylor Townsend, Beth Price, Tori Malone, Rachel Justice Meghan McPherson, Kara Miller, Daniela
Mallory Wilkerson, Holly Logan, Madison (sixth row, from left) Chireatha Drummond, Danette Harris, Leslie Young, Bri Cooks, Tyiesha Evans, Mariah Boyd, Anna
Lorrie Moore, Lena Kristy Athey, Adrian Tucker Zach Peden, Claire Griffin, Tammie Triplett, (seventh row, from left) Shardae Spears, Brittney Taylor, Shaunc
Brittnae Smith, Georgia Doner, Bailey Kara Yates, Aaren Avera, Ashley Bowman, Kristen Felton, Cady Smith, Ashley Cumberland, Brittany Sharp, Brianna P
(eighth row, from left) Denzel Clemons, Dustin Fisher, Charles Taylor, Preston William Milner, Lena Ian Lanthrip, Jaron Croft, Hunter Vance, Sam Lovorn, Conor Bell,
Martin, Kendall Wilcher, Matt Graham, Brandon Warrick, (ninth row, from left) Jonathon Hodge, Clay Drury, Damian Savage, D'Andre Henton, Jonathan Brown,
Griffin, Jermaine Russell, Julian Fuentes, Adam Pryor, Cody Smith, Colton Horne, Blake Faulkner, Corey Burton, (10th row, from left) Samson Pace, Quintin Dard
Ford, James Hanna, Acea Ange, Patrick Embrey, Michael Buntyn, Ryan Packer, Austin Savell, Jamey Tune, Damien Lewis, Malcolm McBride, Glenn Bender, Chris
(11th row, from left) Thomas Robertson, Thomoz Smith, Taylor Cornelison, Jeremy Collins, Benji Walton, Ben Avera, Dillon Evans, Chauncy Griffin, Jeremiah Cl
Neal Wilson, Nisa Jones, Jeremy Dade, Ryan McClendon, (12th row, from left) Jacob Emmons, Sara Pell, Austin Mize, Aaron Hancock, Clay Holdiness, Mark Beasle
Harrison, Matt Mason, Josh Chesnut, Josh Finley, David Wilson. Not pictured is Chandler Smith. Hunter Corhern serves as director of bands. Ed Girling serves as assi
rector.

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(continued from previous page)

WEEK OF Sept 8, 2013

Scott County Wall O' Sound Band Members

Scott County students who are members of the 2013 East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band include (first row, from left) Davita Ragsdale, Emilee Cox and Kelsey Cox, all of Forest; Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; Kasey Logan, Lake; Kierra Stewart, Forest; Brittany Foster and Gloriana Latham, both of Morton; Briana Parkman, Lake; and Taylor Cornelison, Morton; (second row, from left) Ian Lanthrip, Forest; Dakota Hollingsworth and Faith Emmons, both of Lake; Hayley Taylor, Union; Brittney Taylor and Symone Ickom, both of Lake; Bri Cooks, Forest; Kristy Athey, Kara Yates and Daniela Vargas, all of Morton; and Samson Pace, Forest; (third row, from left) Thomas Robertson, Forest; William Milner, Lena; Matt Graham, Meridian; Jacob Emmons, Lake; Jeremy Collins and Ryan McClendon, both of Forest; Jonathon Hodge and Dustin Fisher, both of Lake; Chauncy Griffin, Morton; Mark Beasley, Walnut Grove; and Thomoz Smith, Forest. Hunter Corhern serves as Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Sept. 15, 2013

ECCC scholar

Sonya Myers Boswell of Newton, a 42-year-old English education major, is the recipient of a Nontraditional Student Tuition Scholarship at ECCC. Shown making the presentation is Randall E. Lee, vice president for Student Services.

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WEEK OF Sept 15 2013

ECCC Band features 'Blues Brothers' theme

The Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur boasts 160 members for the 2013 College term and will feature a "Blues Brothers" theme sure to get the fans involved and excited!

Second year director Hunter Corhern said, "Mr. (Ed) Girling (assistant band director) and I sat down following last marching season and brainstormed on what would be a fun, exciting marching band show,"

Corhern said. "We were about 50 percent committed to an idea, which we won't share in case we use it next year, when the Blues Brothers just popped into our heads. After a few minutes of discussion, we knew that was the direction we wanted to go for this year's band!

"This year, we made a point to feature both our Centralettes dance team and our ECCC Color Guard, as well as the largest percussion section in EC's history. Our drill will help the band sound larger, and they'll even get a chance to dance for the audience!"

Corhern said, most of the songs for this year's show are from the original movie including "I Can't Turn You Loose," the unofficial "Blues Brothers" theme seen during the mall chase scene; "Soul Man," from the original "Saturday Night Live" sketch of the "Blues Brothers," featuring Dan Akroyd and John Belushi; and "Shake a Tail Feather," as presented by Ray Charles in the movie.

He added, "For our drum feature, we used "Funky Nassau" from the sequel "Blues Brothers 2000," which includes solos from Chandler Smith of Philadelphia on keyboard and vocals by Claire Griffin of Decatur and Kara Miller of Hickory.

The show's closing number is "Everybody Needs Somebody to Love," from the ending of the original movie.

Colton Hurst of Hickory will serve as the "Blues Brothers" announcer and will be "singing, dancing, and leading us through the show," Corhern said.

In addition to Corhern and Girling, members of the band's instructional staff include Tina Sanders, Centralette Coordinator/Choreographer and Kelsey Sykes, Color Guard Coordinator.

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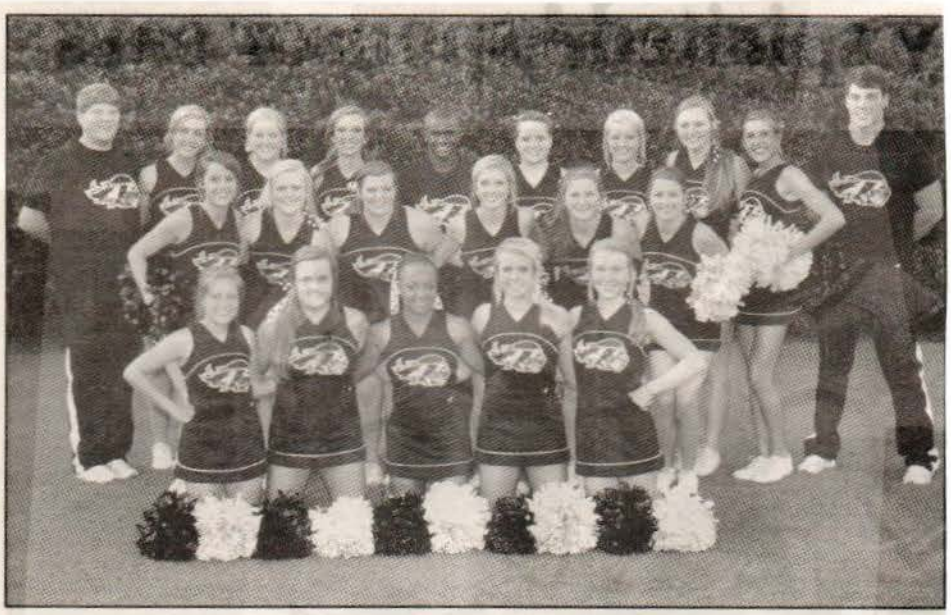
WEEK OF Sept. 22, 2013



ECCC cheer squad

East Central Community College cheerleaders for 2013-14 include first row, from left, Heather Johnson and Jordan Landry, both products of Newton County High School; Kaitlyn Patrick, Forest; Laken Fulcher, Nanih Waiya; and Mary Margaret Bailey, Philadelphia; second row, Madison Stringer and Haleigh West, both of Newton County; Lauren Coward, Neshoba Central; Kamaran Malone, Leake Academy; Laura Williamson, Scott Central; and Mackenzie Rowzee, Newton County; and back row, Maxey Parker, Noxapater; Lauren Peterson, Forest; Hanna Kemp, Leake Academy; Payton Smith, Scott Central; David Williams, Newton County; Madison Herrington, Union; Karleigh Moss, Neshoba Central; Alana Krohn, Newton County; Hannah Smith, Leake Academy; and Darin Hillman, Sebastopol. Not pictured is Lindsey McCool of Winston Academy. Pam McKnight of Forest serves as cheer coach. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Sept. 22, 2012

ECCC Centralettes

Providing halftime entertainment during East Central Community College football games are the above members of the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band. Members include first row, from left, Kasey Logan, Lake; Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Emily Gully, Louin; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; and Hillary Williams, Philadelphia; second row, Mackenzie Gannon, Newton; Kayla Covington, Louisville; Kelsey Cox and Emilee Cox, both of Forest; Caitlyhn Sant, Decatur; and Hannah Mitchell, Meridian; and third row, Emily Cook, Carthage; Jordan Lovorn, Cara Jackson, Jessica Moffett and Joni Hickman, all of Louisville; Kelly Boulton, Newton; Davita Ragsdale, Forest; and Grayson Harrell, Morton. Tina Sanders begins her first year as coordinator/choreographer. Hunter Corhern serves as Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director. ECCC is located in Decatur. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Sept. 22, 2013

ECCC Color Guard

Color Guard members in the 2013 East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band include first row, from left, Livi Harrison, Little Rock; Gloriana Latham, Morton; Heather Bradley, Philadelphia; Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Torie Quinn, Louisville; and Shelby Horn, Hickory; and second row, Kierra Stewart, Forest; Brittany Foster, Morton; Deejay Rolison, Conehatta; McChasity Leflore, Carthage; and Katy Ezelle and Nicole Cater, both of Decatur. Kelsey Sikes begins her first year as Color Guard coordinator. Hunter Corhern is Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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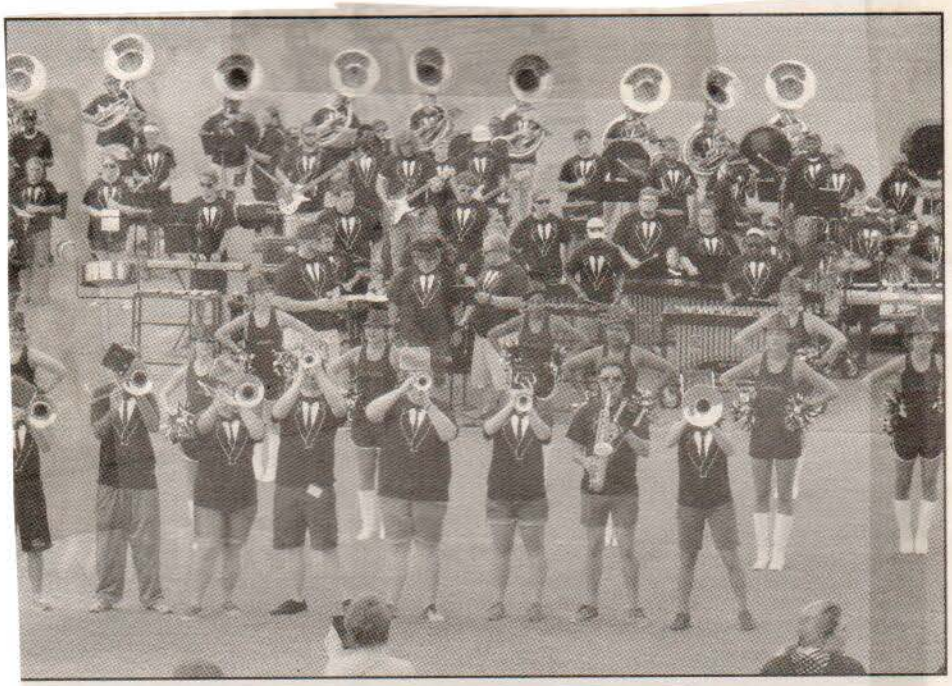

ECCC band prepares for marching season

East Central Community College's Wall O' Sound Marching Band provided a preview of the upcoming marching season during its annual "Show and Tell" activity held at the conclusion of band camp. Band members are shown rehearsing for one of their upcoming halftime presentations, which features music from the Blues Brothers. The band's first performance was held during halftime of the ECCC/Copiah-Lincoln football game at Bailey Stadium. This year's Wall O' Sound is comprised of 175 talented musicians from the five-county support district and surrounding areas. Hunter Corhern serves as Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Sept 22, 2013

ECCC's FCA "Glowing for Christ"

These members of East Central Community College's Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) participated in the "Glowing for Christ" campaign, a joint effort by Mississippi's FCA and Mission Mississippi. As part of the campaign, they carried the wooden cross, which is shown in this photo, from Mt. Zion Church on Highway 15 to Decatur. The cross is being carried by FCA members throughout the state and by the end of October will have made its journey through all 82 counties in Mississippi. Pictured are (front row, from left) Haley Stephens of Union, Morgan Porter of Enterprise, Malauri Robinson of Meridian, Zack Killion of Crestwood, Ky., and Matt Sykes of Columbus; (second row, from left) Amber McBroom of Brandon, Lindsey Beard of Meridian, Dalton Smith of Florence , Nick Breland of Perkinston and Hunter Thrower of Meridian; (third row, from left) Nathan Powell of Meridian, Kyle McCullouch of Madison, Daniel Myrick of Flowood and Clint McGraw of Tupelo; and (back row, from left) Cody Daigle of Addis, La., Chance Whitten of Batesville, Jordan Walker of Decatur and assistant football coach Scott Brock, ECCC FCA sponsor.

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WEEK OF Sept. 29, 2013

East Central Community College Collegians selected for 2013-14

Members of the East Central Community College Collegians were recently selected for 2013-14, announced first-year director Chas Evans.

The popular rock 'n' roll group includes vocalists Ryan Godwin, Claire Griffin and Taylor Gressett, all products of Newton County High School, Jake Wilbourne of Scott Central, Macy Seale of Neshoba Central, Kara Miller, Newton County Academy and Krissy Winstead of Union; saxophonist Zachary Peden and trumpet player Adrian Tucker, both of Neshoba Central; trumpet player Matt Graham of Lake and trombone player Anna Girling of Leake Central; lead guitarist Jamey Tune of Newton County Academy, acoustic guitarist Dillon Evans of Carthage, auxiliary percussionist D'Andre Henton of Neshoba Central, drummer Joseph Aulds and bassist Houston Martin III, both of Newton County, and keyboard player Malcolm McBride of Auburn (Ala.) High School.

Technicians are Michael Buntyn (lead), Sarah Labue, Acea Ange and Ryan Packer, all of Newton County; Jeremy Collins of Scott Central, Austin Savell of Neshoba Central, Clay Holdiness of Nanih Waiya and Kendall Wilcher and Cody Smith, both of Leake Central.

The Collegian's fall concert will be held at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 18 in Huff Auditorium. There is no charge for admission.

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WEEK OF Sept. 29, 2013

EC choral students perform with honors choir at conference

From school reports

Nine choral students from East Central Community College performed at the Mississippi Community College Honors Choir at the Southern Invitational Choral Conference in Hattiesburg on Sept. 23-24. The students were under the direction of Dr. Paul Hondorp of Western Kentucky University and joined in the 300-member choir when it presented a public concert on Sept. 23 at Main Street Baptist Church in Hattiesburg.

The ECCC students participating and their respective high schools included: (front row, from left) Sarah LaBue, Newton County; Anna Girling, Leake Central; and Claire Griffin, Newton County; (second row, from left) Clint Walker, Newton County Academy; DeeJay Rolison, Newton County; and Georgia Doner, West Lauderdale; and (back row, from left) Ryan Godwin, Newton County; Sam Lovern, Neshoba Central; and Chandler Smith, Newton County. The students are members of the ECCC Concert Choir under the direction of Vicki Blaylock.

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WEEK OF Oct. 10, 2013

ECCC Homecoming Court

Above are members of the 2013 East Central Community College Homecoming Court, who were selected during elections held recently on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are sophomore maid Taylor Gressett of Chunky; maid of honor Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia; queen Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville; and sophomore maids Payton Smith of Forest, a graduate of Scott Central High School and Allie Killens of Saltillo. Standing from left are freshman maids Megan Robinson of Nanih Waiya, Nikki Triplett of Forest, Myia Evans of Lake and Mallory Turner of Meridian. The queen and her court will be presented during the Warriors' Homecoming battle with Mississippi Delta Community College scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Saturday, October 12. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF _____

East Central CC 'Thinking Pink' this week

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Numerous East Central Community College students, faculty and staff members show their support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing "pink" for "Power of Pink Day" Tuesday. Pictured are (first row, from left) instructors Susan Fox Smith and Christy Ferguson, Delphine Edwards of Raleigh, Jared Jim of Philadephia, Yashica Ickom of Lake, Patricia Thweatt of Union, Gloriana Latham of Morton, Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, Latishia Johnson of Decatur, Brianna Parkman of Lake, Nikita Barney and Virginia Easley, both of Philadelphia; and (second row, from left) instructor Judy Hurtt, Tyeshia Meeks and Cindy Burnside, both of Decatur; Chelsea James of Union, Demetria Jones of Newton, Jeremy Hudson of DeKalb, Hannah Smith of Madden, Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, Adrian Tucker of Conehatta, Juan Cervantes of Forest and Dareen Hicks of Louisville. "Power of Pink Day" was sponsored by the College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter. Several activities are being held this week on the Decatur campus of East Central Community College in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Special to The Star

DECATUR – Several activities are being held this week on the Decatur campus of East Central Community College in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Sponsored by Phi Beta Lambda, "Think Pink Week" got under way Monday, with the distribution of pink ribbons on the East Mall, near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Staff members and students were encouraged to wear pink on "Power of Pink Day" Tuesday. A group photo of those wearing "pink" was taken.

"Bright Pink Day" is set for today. Survey forms will be available from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Tucker Applied Technology Center to determine one's risk for breast cancer.

Additional information about breast cancer will be available Thursday, as Association of Student Nurses representatives plan to distribute pamphlets regarding the disease and provide instruction on self-breast exams.

The week's activities conclude with a "Pink Balloon Release" scheduled at 11 a.m. Friday in the East Mall area.

Balloons are available for $1 each in memory or in honor of those who have fought or continue to fight breast cancer. Donations must be received by today.

For more information, contact PBL adviser Christy Ferguson, (601) 635-6292 or e-mail cferguson@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF Oct 6, 2013

ECCC Mourns Student Killed in Auto Accident

Brittany Hutchinson

Services are pending for East Central Community College student Brittany Hutchinson of Forest, who was killed in automobile accident on her way to classes Monday, Sept. 30, 2013.

Hutchinson was a 19-year-old sophomore and a graduate of Scott Central High School.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said in a campus-wide e-mail he is "deeply saddened" about Hutchinson's tragic death, and asks the EC family "to keep Brittany's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time."

EC sophomore Cahnesiya Donald of Forest remembers her friend and classmate as someone who always had a smile on her face.

"Brittany was a very sweet young lady who always spoke when you saw her," Donald said. "You could never tell if she was having a bad day, was sad or down, because she was always smiling! She was my classmate at Scott Central and we lived on the same floor in Jackson Hall (at EC) last year. She was a friend, and I'm truly going to miss her."

Ott and Lee Funeral in Forest is in charge of arrangements.

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WEEK OF Oct. 13, 2013

Hopkins crowned ECCC Homecoming Queen

Sophomore Kaylin Hopkins (second from left) of Louisville was crowned Homecoming Queen at East Central Community College in Decatur during ceremonies held Saturday, Oct. 12, at Bailey Stadium. Hopkins received her crown from College President Dr. Billy W. Stewart, left, during halftime of the Warriors' 36-31 victory over Mississippi Delta Community College. Serving as Miss Hopkins' escort was Johnathan Hunt (third from left) of Louisville. At right is 2012 queen Erin Thornton of Madden who presented the new queen with a bouquet of roses. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 11-3-2013

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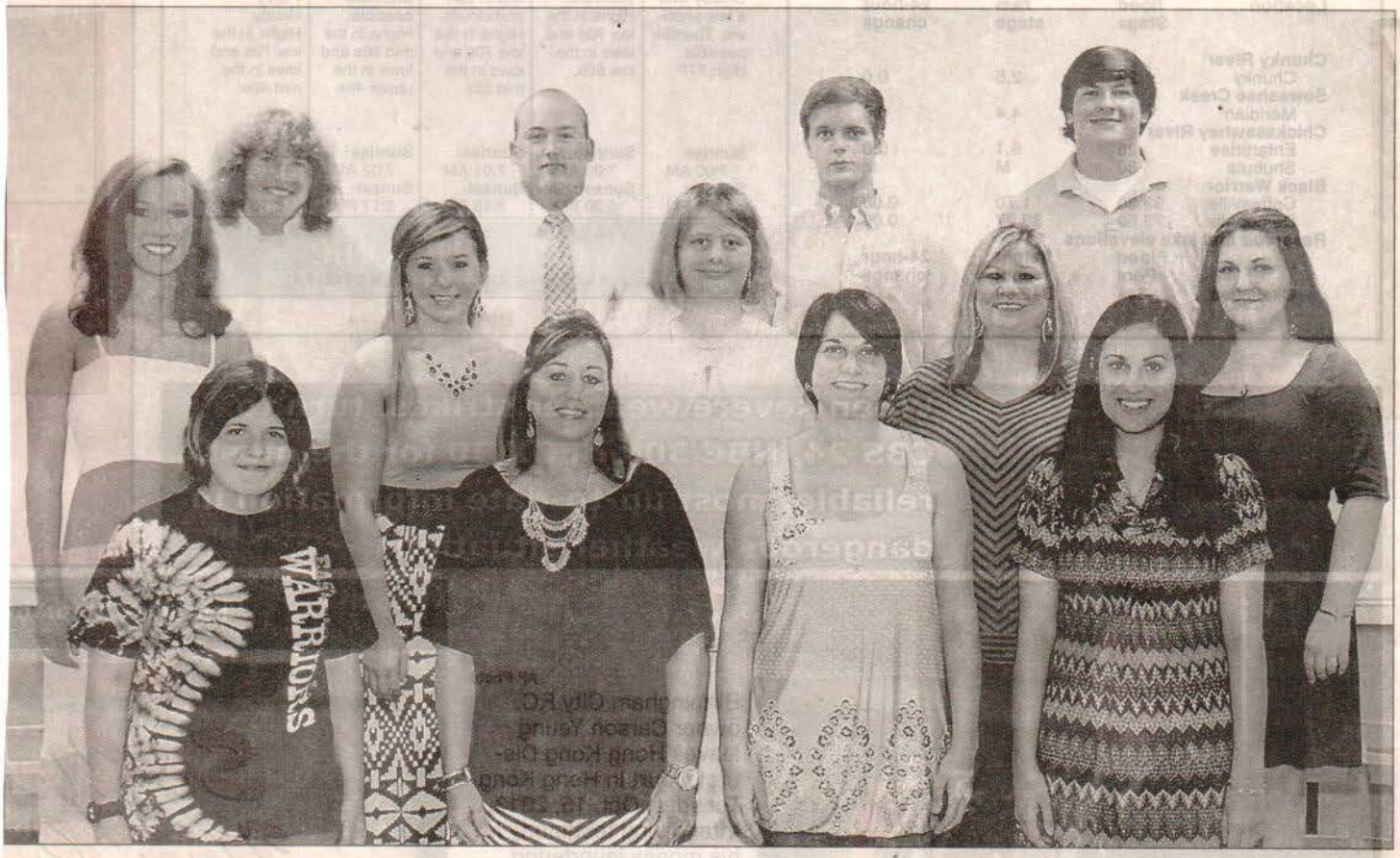
ECCC PHI THETA KAPPA inductees



SUBMITTED PHOTO

These outstanding East Central Community College students were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at the fall induction ceremony held in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Honorees and their respective home towns include: (first row, from left) Julie Clark and Angela Reeves, both of Newton; Megan Thaggard, Carthage; and Lacye Harrison, Newton; (second row, from left) Payton Smith, Forest; Bethany Jones, Philadelphia; Emily Price, Walnut Grove; Shanna Culpepper, Forest; and Chelsey Smith, Brandon; and (third row, from left) Corey Burton, Philadelphia; Zach Yates, Decatur; Joseph McBeath, Carthage; and Justin Laster, Pelahatchie. ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake was guest speaker. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston also provided remarks. EC staff members Amanda Walton, Chris Ryals and Jenna Wright serve as Theta Xi advisers. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society on American higher education with more than two million members and 1,200 chapters located in the 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Oct. 30, 2013

Culinary Arts wins homecoming sign competition

The Culinary Arts Club took top honors and the $125 cash prize during East Central Community College's annual homecoming sign competition with the above entry. Other award winners included EC Art Club, second, $100; Native American Association, third, $75; and ECSTSA (East Central Surgical Technology Student Association), fourth, $50. Winners are scored on overall appearance, creativity, originality and school spirit. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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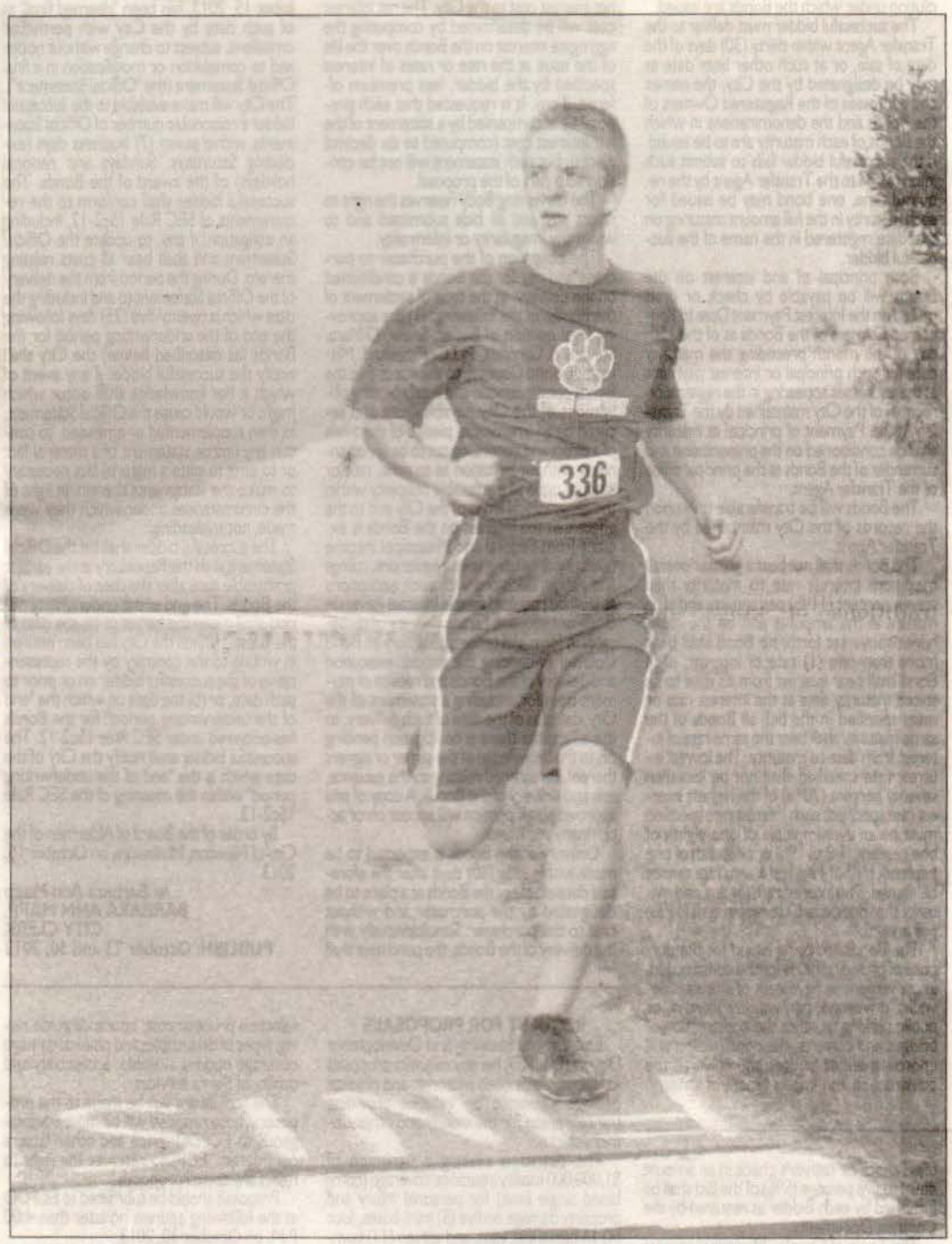
WEEK OF 10 20 2013



Vaughn wins 5K race

Caleb Vaughn crosses the finish line to capture the East Central Community College 5K Run/Walk held Oct. 12 on the Decatur campus. The Decatur resident posted a time of 18:30 in the annual event, held as part of homecoming activities. Vaughn was among the approximately 85 participants who endured an early morning fog to complete the challenging 3.1-mile course. ECCC Faculty member Dr. Phillip Crenshaw serves as race chairman.

EC photo

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WEEK OF Oct 20, 2013

ECCC celebrates Surgical Technologist Week

As part of Surgical Technologist Week held Sept. 16-20, East Central Community College in Decatur celebrated with a pizza party honoring its students. Taking part in the celebration are front row, from left, Angie Withers, Jada Crain, Taleesha Rice, Kristen Carson, Tina Cargile and instructor Kristie Pilgrim; and back row, Meagan Warren, Montana Thomson, Angela Stiles, Brooke Caraway, Donna Hickman and Anita Evans. (EC PHOTO)

ECCC to host Healthfest 2013 in November

Interested in a career in the healthcare field?

If so, attend Healthfest 2013, scheduled Friday, Nov. 8 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Activities are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sutphin Associate Degree Nursing/Child Care Technology Building.

Sponsored by ECCC's Division of Healthcare Education, participants can arrive any time throughout the day and talk with current students, faculty and administration about programs offered by the College.

Campus tours will also be provided.

Associate Degree Nursing instructor Alicia Lundstrom who is helping to coordinate the event said, "We feel this is a great way to reach out to students interested in these fields, as well as to demonstrate the vast opportunities and teaching instruction we provide to our current students.

Also, all healthcare involves inter-professional collaboration so this is a way to not only recruit potential students but provide relevant learning activities for our current students."

ECCC offers degrees in associate degree nursing, practical nursing, surgical technology and emergency medical technology-paramedic.

Each program will have displays and demonstrations to inform prospective students about the roles of various healthcare professions.

In addition, current students will be available to talk about their real-life experience in a healthcare education program and, along with faculty members, will participate in simulation exercises demonstrating the roles and responsibilities of each profession.

Those planning to attend should contact Denita Thomas, Dean of Healthcare Education, at 601-635-6293 or by email at dthomas@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Oct. 27, 2013

ECCC Players to Present 'Blazing Guns at Roaring Gulch' Nov. 14-16

special to The Star

DECATUR – The East Central Community College Players will present their annual fall dinner theater Nov. 14-16 at 7 p.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on campus.

This year's presentation, "Blazing Guns at Roaring Gulch," a comedy by Shubert Fendrich, is directed by ECCC English instructor Stacey Pollock.

"The story takes place in the lobby of the Roaring Gulch Hotel, where the hero, Harry Heartstone (Jeremy Hudson of DeKalb), is found in hot pursuit of the villain, Snipe Vermin (also played by Hudson)," Pollock said. "Here the story takes an unusual turn because the villain and hero are twin brothers and it is inevitable that the two should meet face to face! "

The play also features additional characters, including a lady sheriff, an evil proprietress, a stranded actress, a nutty sidekick and a traveling theatrical group.

Additional cast members include Chelsey Smith (Willie Lovelace) of Brandon, Delaney Kilgore (Betty Black) of Newton, Will Stokes (Bill Filbert) of Philadelphia, Bristol Buffington (Widow Black) of El Paso, Texas.; Danielle Shelley (Martha Muldoon) of Sebastopol, George Conner Bond (Colonel Crabtree) of Brandon, Shelby Davis (Flora) of Oxford and Virginia Easley (Dora) of Nanih Waiya. Stephanie Neal of Edinburg serves as a member of the technical crew.

Tickets are $15 and are available by calling the college switchboard at (601) 635-6215.

The dinner menu includes fresh baked tortilla chips with Old West Salsa and Cowboy Caviar, Stage Coach Flank Steak, Giddy Up BBQ Chicken, Round-Up Roasted Potatoes, Wild West Corn, Buckaroo Beans, Campfire Roasted Vegetables, Iron Skillet Cornbread and Biscuits and assorted Prairie Desserts.

For more information contact Pollock at (601) 635-6236. The e-mail is spollock@eccc.edu

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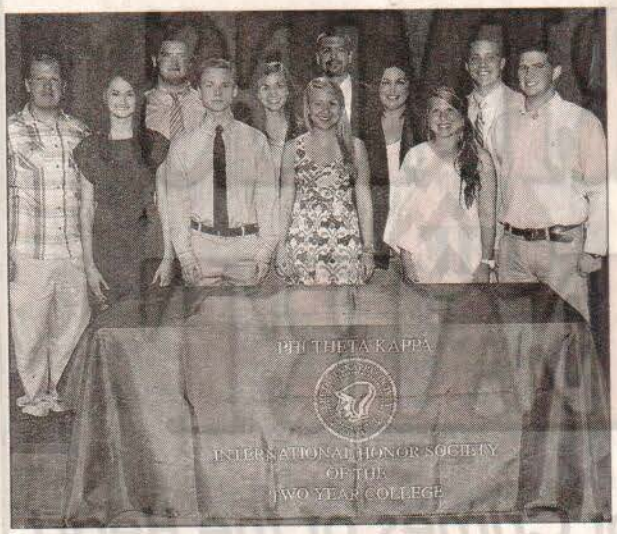
WEEK OF Oct. 27, 2013

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Sunday, October 27, 2013

ECCC PTK CHAPTER LEADERS



Special to The Star

Leaders of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa include: from left, Kacey Smiley of Newton, executive board; Hannah McCurdy of Morton, vice president of scholarship; Bryant Williams of Hickory, vice president of fellowship; Jacob Oliver of Little Rock, vice president of leadership; adviser Jenna Wright, math instructor; Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, president; advisers Chris Ryals, drafting and design technology instructor and Amanda Walton, workforce education counselor; Sydney Dawkins of DeKalb, executive board; Nathan Powell of Meridian, vice president of service; and Jessie Barrett of Lake, executive board. Advisers and officers were recognized at the fall induction ceremony held in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than two million members and 1,200 chapters located in the United States, U.S. Territories, Canada and Germany. In 1929, the American Association of Community Colleges recognized Phi Theta Kappa as the official honor society for two-year colleges.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF NOV. 3, 2015

Winston County Journal www.winstoncountyjournal.com

5k winners

ECCC Homecoming 5K Winners

Capturing first-place honors in their respective division in the annual East Central Community College 5K Race, held as part of homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 12 on the Decatur campus, were (seated from left) Zack Killion, Crestwood, Ky.; Ali Grace Walker, Decatur; Nina LaBue, Conehatta; Traci Lewis, Decatur; Jennifer Temple, Collinsville; and Lanette Hanna, Louisville; and (standing from left) Andrew Carlisle, Jesse Vaughn and Caleb Vaughn, all of Decatur; Greg Sanders, Forest; Kristie Pilgrim, Philadelphia; Charlie Creel, Sebastopol; Howard Crenshaw, Newton; and Polly Medcalf, Portervilie. Kneeling is race chairman and ECCC faculty member Dr. Phillip Crenshaw. Caleb Vaughn was the overall winner with a time 18:30. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Nov. 3, 2013

ECCC champs

ECCC Flag Football Champs

"Hometown Heroes" captured top honors in the intramural flag football completion held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Percy Lewis, Morton; Jonathan Hunt, Louisville; Jeremiah Chapman, Newton; JaDarrias Patrick, Decatur; Davais Scharrer, Louisville; Charles Griffin, Carthage; and Rodrick Young, Newton; and (standing from left) Nick Nichols, Morton; Antonio Parrott, Walnut Grove; William Howington, Little Rock; and Devonte Gardner, Keondre' Hodges, Kenadaria Watts, Walter Johnson and Coach Javaris Moore, all of Newton. (EC Photo)

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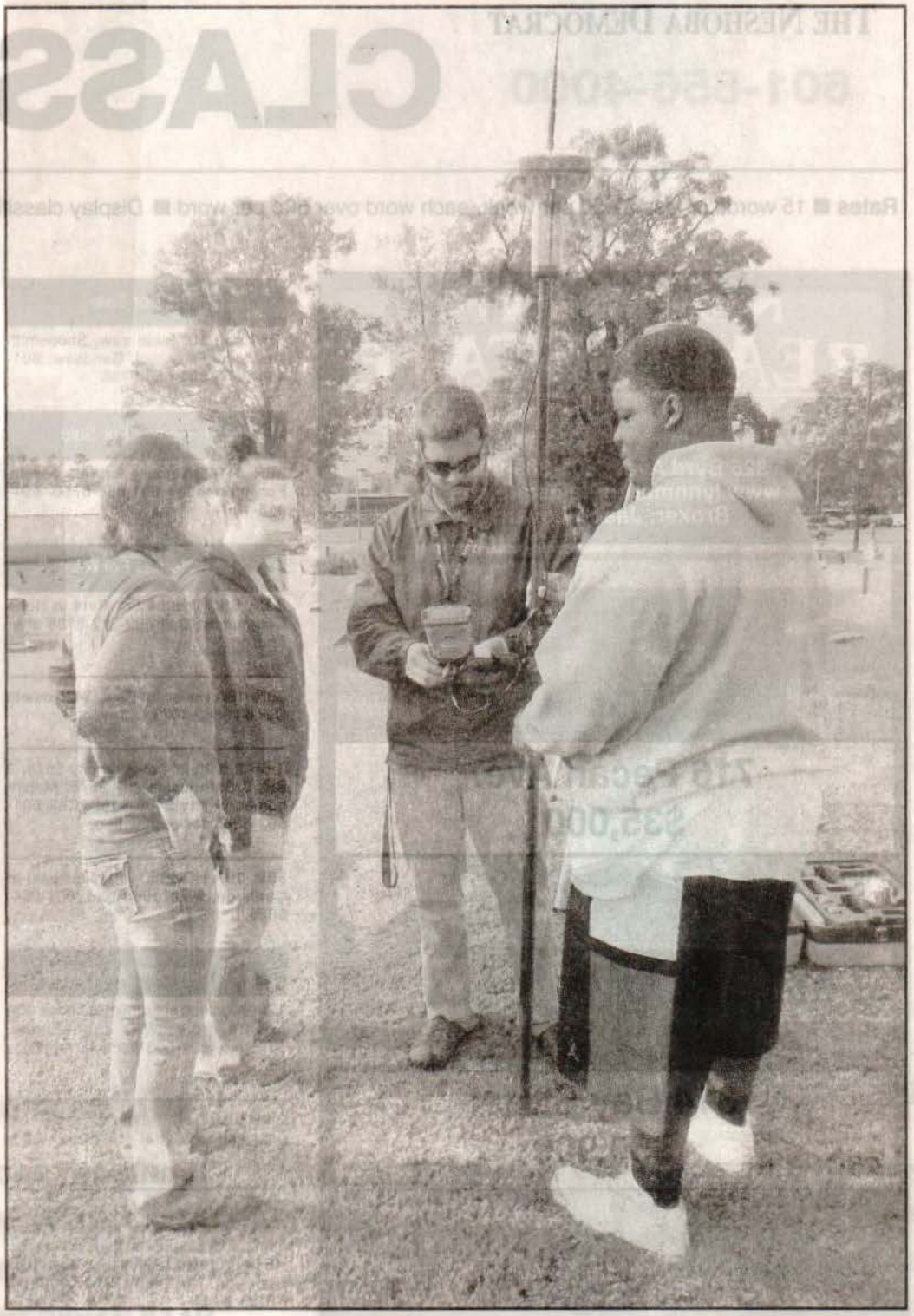
(continued from previous page)

Nov. 3, 2013

EC students assist with Carthage Cemetery Project

East Central Community College drafting and design technology instructor Chris Ryals (third from left) and several of his students recently traveled to Carthage to map the old cemetery mentioned in the original town layout in 1876. The survey will be used to assist Carthage Main Street and the Carthage Historical Commission in rehabilitating the cemetery, where several markers were vandalized and broken through the years. Ryals said surveys were completed and information gathered pertaining to 156 graves. He and his students plan a return trip to the cemetery to complete the community service project. The final map will show all the data about the graves with a detailed list of all grave data. Assisting Ryals were, from left, Ashley Devine of Carthage, Elizabeth Hunt of Louisville and Ryan McClendon of Forest. "We hope our efforts will provide a chain of evidence of the persons buried in the cemetery for genealogical purposes and a plan for rehabilitation by the city," said Ryals. (Submitted Photo)

WEEK OF Nov. 3, 2013



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WEEK OF Nov. 3, 2013

Attend ECCC Nontraditional Conference for Female Students

Brianna Cistrunk of Winston-Louisville Career Technical Center tries on a neck brace with assistance from Denita Thomas, Dean of Healthcare Education, while learning about the college's EMT program during East Central Community College's annual Nontraditional Conference for Female Students held September 18, 2013 on the Decatur campus. During the day's activities, male students participate in hands-on activities and tour programs which typically enroll female students. Additional programs featured included automotive technology, collision repair, computer networking, culinary arts, drafting and design, residential carpentry, surgical technology, hotel/restaurant management and welding. A Nontraditional Conference for Male students is also held each year. For more information, contact Career-Technical Counselor Amanda Walton at 601-635-6214. The e-mail address is awalton@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Nov. 3, 2013

Wall O' Sound

Winston Wall O' Sound Band Members

Winston County students who are members of the 2013 East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band include (seated from left) Joni Hickman, Kayla Covington, Cara Jackson, Jordan Lovorn and Jessica Moffett, all of Louisville; and (standing from left) Tammie Triplett, Quintin Darden and Clay Holdiness, all of Louisville; Colton Horne, Noxapater; and Torie Quinn, Louisville. Hunter Corhern serves as Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director. (EC Photo)

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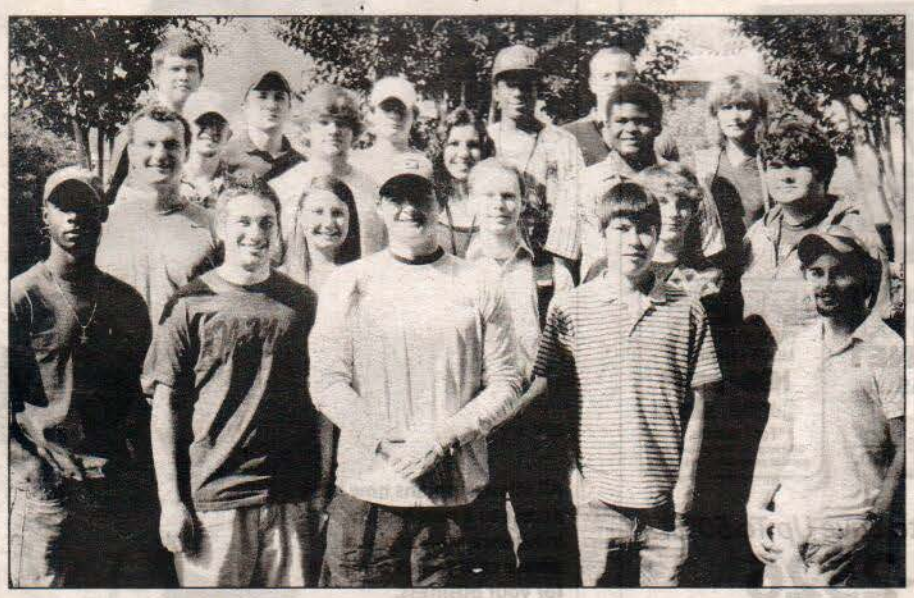
WEEK OF Nov 3, 2013

ECCC Club



ECCC Alpha Alpha Epsilon

Alpha Alpha Epsilon Club members for 2013-14 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. Alpha Alpha Epsilon is an organization for students majoring in pre-engineering or industrial arts. Members and their respective hometowns include: (front row, from left) Joey Nickson, Conehatta; Joseph Aulds, Decatur; Brady Power, Forest; Brandon St. Clair, Newton; and Hunter Fortenberry, Forest; (second row, from left) Matthew Evans, Forest; Jenna Lovorn, Louisville; and Jacob Oliver, Eli Parker, and Matthew Cress, all of Little Rock; (third row, from left) Jessie Barrett, Lake; Aaron Shepard, Carthage; Sylvia Carvalho, Portugal; and Ronald Dixon, Flowood; and (back row, from left) Cody Smith, Carthage; Clayton Williamson, Forest; Justin Moore, Kosciusko; Joshua Finley, Conehatta; and sponsors Robin Fulton and Chris Davis. For more information about ECCC Alpha Alpha Epsilon, call 601-635-6361 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222 ext. 339. (EC Photo)

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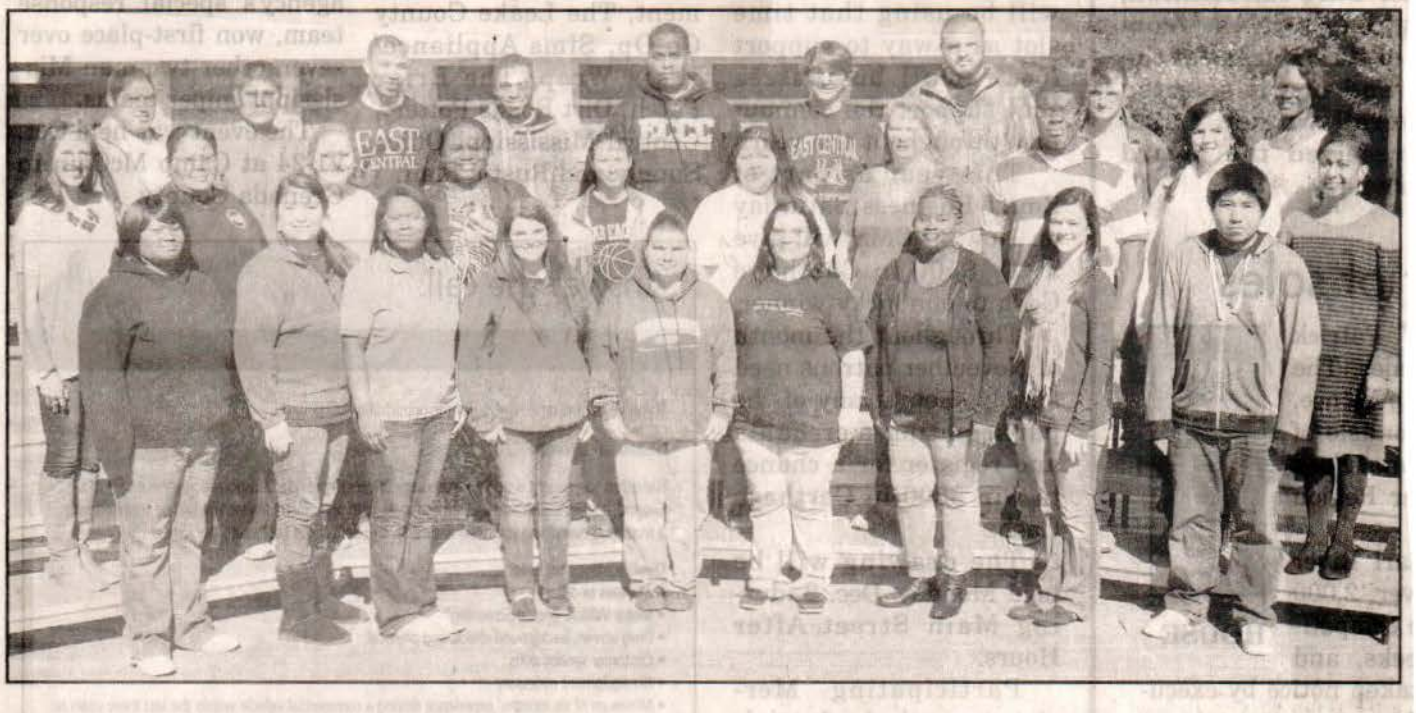
WEEK OF Nov 10, 2013



Phi Beta Lambda at East Central

Members for 2013-14 have been announced for East Central Community College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter, a business education association, including, from left, front, Tyeshia Meeks, Chelsea James, Yashica Ickom, Taylor Townsend, Patricia Thweatt, Latishia Johnson, Delphine Edwards, Leah Ferguson, Shawn Smith; middle, Hannah Smith of Madden, Courtney Johnson, Kacey Quick of Carthage, Demetria Jones, Katessa Hutchins of Carthage, Deelenna Jefferson, Cindy Burnside, Jeremy Hudson, Allison Johnson, Mattie Slaughter; back, Tiara Morris, Jared Jim of Choctaw, Kardarius McClendon, Rico Graydon, Brandon Clark, Chance Lovern, Josh Bradley, Austin Jordan, and Virginia Easley.

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WEEK OF NOV. 10, 2013

EC 'Blazing Guns at Roaring Gulch' reveals cast

Cast members for the East Central Community College production of "Blazing Guns at Roaring Gulch," a western comedy by Shubert Fendrich, include, front row, from left, Danielle Shelley, Sebastopol; Will Stokes, Philadelphia; Shelby Davis, Oxford; George Conner Bond, Brandon; Virginia Easley, Nanih Waiya; and Jeremy Hudson, DeKalb; and (back row, from left) Bristol Buffington, El Paso; Delaney Kilgore, Newton; Chelsea Smith, Brandon; and Stephanie Neal, Edinburg. English instructor Stacey Pollock serves as director. The dinner theatre presentation is scheduled at 7 p.m. Nov. 14-16 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Call 601-635-6215 for tickets, which are $15.

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WEEK OF NOV. 10, 2013

EC students in breast cancer awareness walk

These Warrior Corps members at East Central Community College in Decatur participated in a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk sponsored by the Newton Municipal School District. From left are Ashlyn Pullin and Taylor Townsend, both of Union; Courtney Elliott, Little Rock; Ben Killen, Union; Kardarius McClendon and Keifer Wolfe, both of Lake; Lauren Cantey, Collinsville; and Emily Gully, Louin. EC Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as Warrior Corps sponsors.

EC photo

EC Gospel Choir performs Nov. 13

The East Central Community College Gospel Choir will hold its annual fall concert at 7 p.m. today in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend.

Jerry Smith, vice chairman of the ECCC Board of Trustees,

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WEEK OF Nov. 12, 2017

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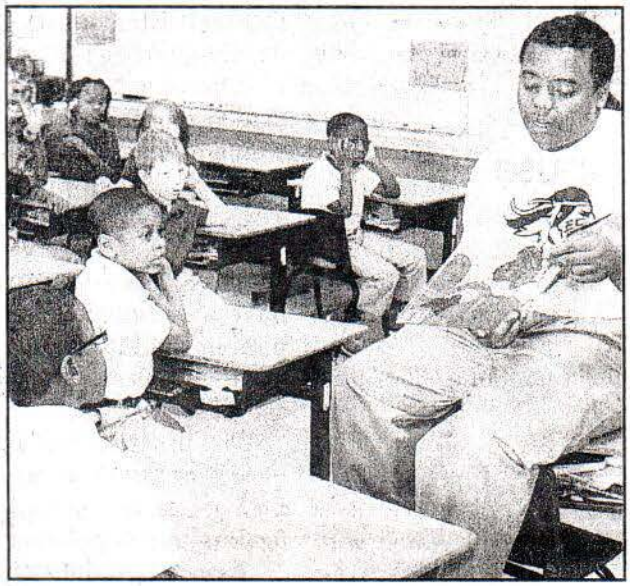
WEEK OF Nov. 10, 2013

Pitching in

East Central Community College student-athletes participate in a service project at Newton Elementary School, reading books to kindergarten and first-grade students. Students, above, from left include, Shamiya Evans of Lake, Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy and Haley Watkins of Scott Central, and, right, Laromeo McKee, of Scott Central.



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WEEK OF Nov. 10, 2013

ECCC Collegians to Present Fall Concert Nov. 18

East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, "The Collegians," will present its annual fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Monday, November 18 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. The popular group will perform hits by Bon Jovi, Katy Perry, Miranda Lambert, Miley Cyrus, Imagine Dragons, Fall Out Boy and many more. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. Pictured are (kneeling, from left) Jake Wilbourne (vocals) of Forest, Joseph Aulds (drums) of Decatur and D'Andre Henton (auxiliary percussion) of Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Claire Griffin (vocals) and Kara Miller (vocals), both of Decatur, Macy Seale (vocals) of Philadelphia, Taylor Gressett (vocals) of Chunky; Dillon Evans (acoustic guitar) of Carthage, Jamie Tune (electric guitar) of Newton, Houston Martin (bass) of Chunky, and director/guitarist Chas Evans; (third row, from left) Zach Peden (saxophone) of Philadelphia, Cody Smith (tech) of Carthage and Micahael Buntyn (lead technician) of Newton; (fourth row, from left) Adrian Tucker (trumpet) of Philadelphia, Matt Graham (trumpet) of Lake, Anna Girling (trombone) of Carthage; and Malcolm McBride (keyboard)of Auburn, Ala.; and (top row, from left) Sarah LaBue (technician) of Conehatta, Jeremy Collins (technician) of Forest, Ryan Packer (technician) of Decatur and Austin Savell (technician) of Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF NOV. 10, 2013

Winston warriors

Winston County Warrior Corps Members

These East Central Community College students from Winston County are among new members of the Warrior Corps. Pictured are (front row, from left) Madelyn Peterson, Jenna Lovorn, Nat Reed, Cara Jackson and Jordan Lovern, all of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Jessica Moffett, Brody Richardson, Bryan Burton, Zach Allen and Warner Parkes, all of Louisville. Warrior Corps is a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for special events on the Decatur campus.Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors. (EC Photo)

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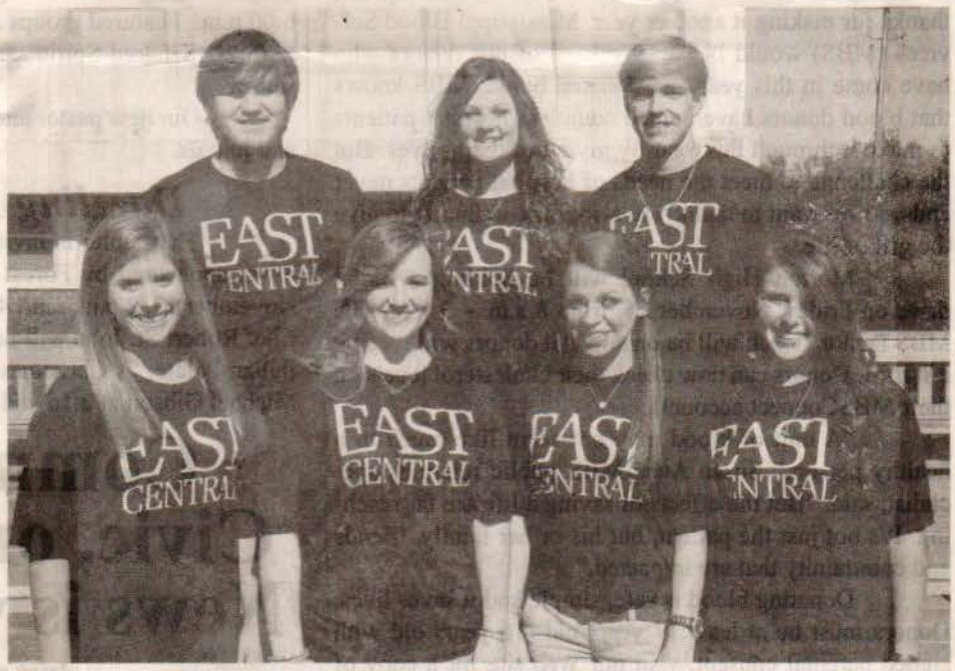
ECCC President's Council

The above students currently serve as members of the President's Council at East Central Community College in Decatur. The President's Council is comprised of leaders of all campu clubs and organizations and was established to provide better communications between student groups and the President's office. Members and their respective organizations includ front row, from left, Jessica Brown of Lake, Business Club; Allie Killens of Saltillo, Student Body Association; Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services; Conor Bell (secretar of Carthage, EC Encore/Wo-He-Lo; Brooke Wilson (vice president) of Goodhope, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau; Dr. Billy Stewart, President; Emily Jacome-Cluff of Hickory, Wall O' Sound Ban and Felica Robinson of Hickory, Diamond Darlings; second row, Taleesha Rice of Columbus, EC Surgical Technology Student Association; Chris Tramill of Newton, "Bon Appetite" Culina Club; Hope Linch of Louisville, LPN Association; Yashica Ickom of Lake, Phi Beta Lambda; Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, Freshman Class; Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, P Theta Kappa; Brianna Parkman of Lake, Wesley Foundation; Kara Miller of Decatur, Ac'cents; Chelsey Smith of Brandon, Art Club; Delaney Kilgore of Hickory, ECCC Players; Emil Cox of Forest, Centralettes; Joseph Aulds of Decatur, Alpha Alpha Epsilon; and Mantika Bell of Philadelphia, Native American Club; and back row, Thomas McClelland of Meridian, Gosp Choir; Warner Parkes of Louisville, Student Education Association; Kurt Simoneau of Louin, Association of Student Nurses; Duston Call of Philadelphia, Newman Society; Matthew Mor of Meridian, Baptist Student Union; Bailey Laird of Meridian, Environmental Club; Caleb Stallings of Enterprise, Students Against Destructive Decisions; Claire Griffin of Decatur, Conc Choir; Matthew Evans of Forest, Warrior Corps; Daniel Myrick of Flowood, Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Taylor Gressett of Chunky, Sophomore Class; Tell Matuszewski of Raleig Resident Assistants; Michael Buntyn of Newton, Collegians; and William Milner of Lena, SkillsUSA. Dr. Stewart and Dr. Lee serve as sponsors of the President's Council. (EC Photo)

Week of Nov. 10, 2013



Scott County Warrior Corps Members

These East Central Community College students from Scott County are among new members of the Warrior Corps. Pictured are (front row, from left) Jenny Grove and Bailey Easterling, both of Forest; Grayson Harrell of Morton and Brianna Parkman of Lake; and (back row, from left) Regan Reiss and Kristen Gordy, both of Forest; and Keifer Wolfe of Lake. Warrior Corps is a select group who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for special events on the Decatur campus. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors. (EC Photo)

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Newton County Appeal_____

Spirit of Morton ✓

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat_____

Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

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Week of Nov. 10, 2013

Neshoba County Warrior Corps members

These East Central Community College students from Neshoba County are among new members of the Warrior Corps. Pictured are (from left) Bridgette McFarland, Kimberly Talbert and Savannah Alawine, all of Philadelphia. Warrior Corps is a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for special events on the Decatur campus. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors. (EC Photo)

Appeared in:

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Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat ✓

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WEEK OF NOV. 17, 2013

Clark, Talon County

EC's The Ac'cents perform fall campus concert Nov. 21

Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, will present their fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. This year's music includes hits by Adele, The Doobie Brothers, Owl City and Carly Rae Jepsen, as well as selections from the T.V. show "Glee" and the movie "Pitch Perfect." Performers and their respective hometowns include (from left) Kara Miller of Decatur, Zach Peden of Philadelphia, Krissy Winstead of Union, Sam Lovorn of Philadelphia, Mak Rowzee of Hickory, Ryan Godwin of Newton, Jayohnnie Slaughter of Union, Dee Jay Rolison of Conehatta, Taylor Gressett of Chunky, Houston Martin of Edinburg, Claire Griffin of Decatur and Chandler Smith of Philadelphia. The Ac'cents perform throughout the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, as well as various community events and campus concerts. For more information contact director Vicki Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or e-mail vblaylock@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

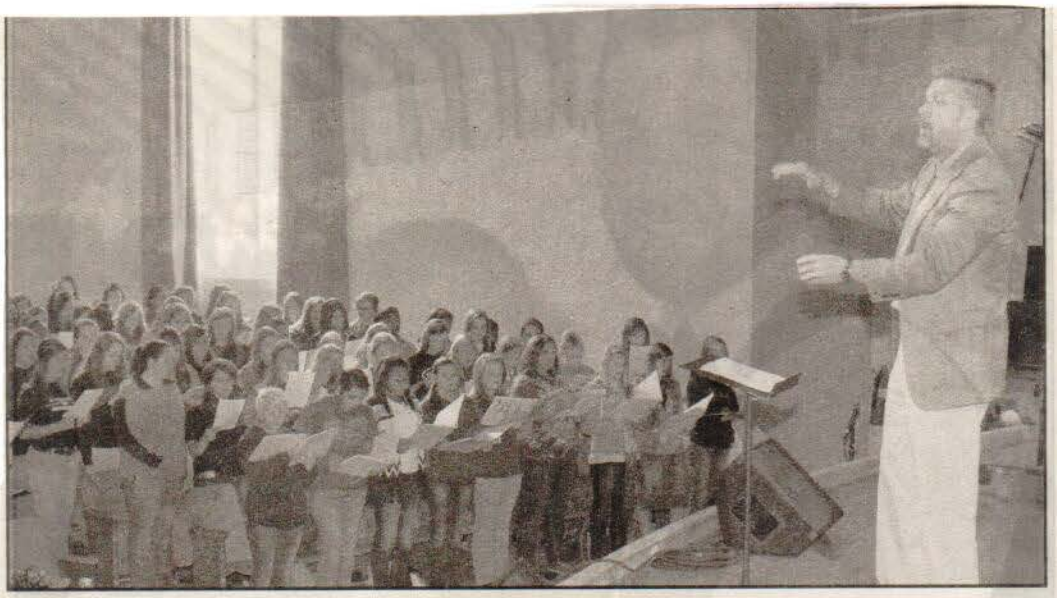
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF NOV. 17, 2013



ECCC hosts district choral festival

The East Central Community College choral music department hosted its annual District High School Choir Festival Thursday, Oct. 24 on the Decatur campus. Dr. James Meaders, right, vocal music instructor at Mississippi College, served as clinician for the 240 students from Newton County, Neshoba Central, Scott Central and Philadelphia high schools who attended. Special exhibition performances were presented by the ECCC Concert Choir and the Ac'cents show choir. The day concluded with a mass choir performance by all festival participants. For more information contact Vicki Blaylock, ECCC vocal/choral music instructor/Fine Arts Department Chair, at 601-635-6225. The e-mail address is vblaylock@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Nov 17, 2013

ECCC Ac'cents to perform Thursday

Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, will present their fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21 in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium o the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. From left are Kara Miller, Zach Peden, Krissy Winstead, Sam Lovorn, Mak Rowzee, Ryan Godwir Jayohnnie Slaughter, Dee Jay Rolison, Taylor Gressett, Houston Martin, Claire Griffin and Chandler Smith. (EC Photo)

(continued from previous page)

NOV. 17, 2013

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Nov 17 2013

2013-14 ECCC Concert Choir introduced

Members of the 2013-2014 East Central Community College Concert Choir are shown prior to their performance during the college's annual District Choir Festival. Pictured are front row, from left, accompanist Natalie Emmons of Lake, Rachel Laird of Meridian, Lindsay Holland of Union, Shelby Horn of Hickory, Rebecca Faron of Flowood, Grayson Harrell of Morton, Clint Walker of Newton, Adam Porter of Decatur, Timothy Laird of Newton, Jordan Alonso of Chunky, Courtney Tillman of Decatur, Makenzie Rowzee of Hickory, Courtney Elliot of Little Rock, Andrea McSwain of Decatur and Jenny Grove of Forest; second row, from left, Sarah Hall of Philadelphia, Jessica Stinson of Morton, Zach Peden of Philadelphia, Conor Bell of Carthage, Ian Lanthrip of Forest, Jesse Vaughn of Decatur, Eli Parker of Duffee, Hannah Kersgaard of Sebastopol and director Vicki Blaylock of Newton; third row, from left, Raven Bane and Heather Bradley, both of Philadelphia; Gloriana Latham of Morton, Chelsey Smith of Brandon, Mallory Wilkerson of Union, Ryan Godwin of Newton, Ryan Mott of Starkville, Julian Fuentas of Decatur, Houston Martin of Edinburg, Tabitha LaBue of Conehatta, Kasey Logan of Lake, Cara Jackson of Nanih Waiya and Kaitlin Dean of Decatur; fourth row, from left, Georgia Donor of Collinsville, Krissy Winstead of Union, Danette Harris of Brandon, Ashley Bozeman of Union, Danielle Gregory of Little Rock, Kimberly Rigby of Forest, Nathan Williams of Union, Joseph Aulds and Tyler Spence, both of Decatur; Anna Girling of Carthage, Sarah LaBue of Conehatta, Jesse Hennington and Tiffany Dorman, both of Philadelphia; Lacey Harrison of Little Rock and Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia; fifth row, from left, Hannah Clark of Philadelphia, Katy Ezelle of Decatur, Caitlyn Sant of Beulah Hubbard, Haileigh West of Hickory, Jordan Lovorn of Nanih Waiya, Kelli Boulton of Newton, Dillion Evans of Carthage, Sam Lovorn of Philade phia, Dee Jay Rolison of Conehatta, Chandler Smith Philadelphia, Claire Griffin of Decatur, Jayohnnie Slaug ter of Union, Danielle Shelley of Sebastopol, Leslie You of Philadelphia and Samantha Hill of Louisville; and ba row, from left, Kara Yates of Leesburg, Hannah Mitch of Meridian, Emily Jacome-Cluff and Katherine Jacom Cluff, both of Hickory; Taylor Gressett of Chunky, Ma Seale of Philadelphia, Jonathon Hodge of Lake, Cor Jackson of Nanih Waiya, David Fortenberry of Philade phia, Dominick Fields of Forest, Matt Graham of Lak Hannah Robinson of Union, Hannah Brown of Decatu Adrian Tucker of Philadelphia, Mackenzie Gannon of D catur, Alana Kron of Decatur and Brianna Parkman Lake.

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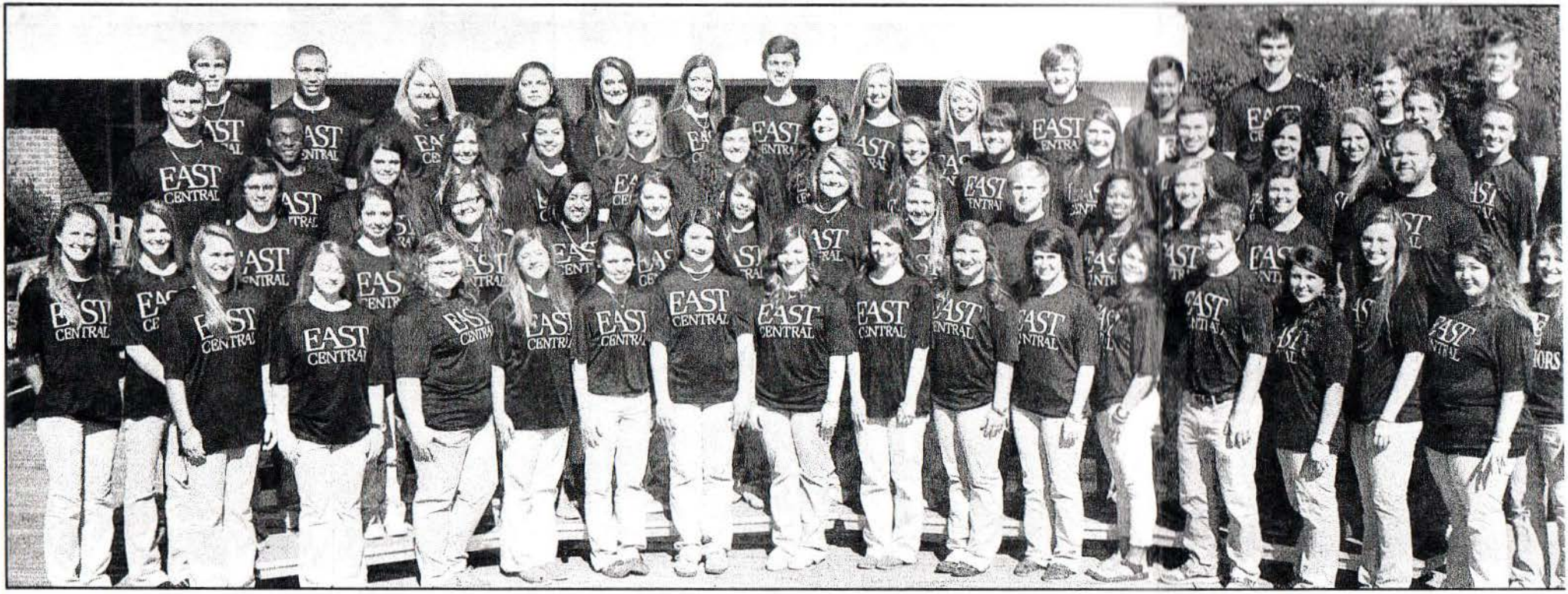

ECCC Warrior Corps

Above are members of the 2013-14 East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for special events on the campus. Members and their respective hometowns include first row, from left, Ashlyn Pullin, Union; Savannah Alawine and Bridgette McFarland, both of Philadelphia; Jenny Grove Grayson Harrell, Morton; Jenna Lovorn, Louisville; Bailey Easterling, Forest; Nat Reed, Nan Hartness, Madelyn Peterson and Teylor Martinez, all of Louisville; Ben Killen, Union; Parkman, Lake; Alana Kron and Courtney Tillman, both of Decatur; and Madison Herrington, Union; second row, Paige Wall, Hero; Casey Cherry, Union; Zack Killion, Crestwo Emily Cook, Carthage; Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Mikayla Carson, Newton; Courtney Moore, Carthage; Lindsey McCool and Hayden Fyery, both of Louisville; Mary Margar (Co-President), Philadelphia; Daniel Giles, Union; Hillary Williams, Philadelphia; Haley Chapman, Hickory; and Kennedy Castleberry and Greg Mitchell, both of Meridian; third row, Evans (Co-President), Forest; Denzel Clemons, Philadelphia; Taylor Townsend, Union; Mary Anna Jefcoat, Brandon; Lauren Cantey, Collinsville; Elauran Vowell and Kimberly both of Philadelphia; Kristen Gordy, Forest; Cara Jackson and Warner Parkes, both of Louisville; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Joseph Aulds, Decatur; Allie Killens, Philadelphia; Mitchell, Meridian; Nathan Powell, Enterprise; and Emily Gully, Bay Springs; and top row, Keifer Wolfe, Lake; Kardarius McClendon, Brandon; Brooke Wilson, Goodhope; E Olmedo Lumbreras, Carthage; Jessica Moffett, Nanih Waiya; Brody Richardson and Zach Allen, both of Louisville; Mackenzie Gannon, Decatur; Jordan Lovorn, Louisville; Rega Forest; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; Bryan Burton, Louisville; Clint Walker, Newton; and Tyler Pigg, Decatur. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Eva as sponsors. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF NOV. 17, 2013

ECCC NATIVE AMERICAN CLUB

Submitted Photo

Native American Club members for 2013-14 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. This is an organization for Native American students that seeks to provide a support group for Native American students and culture. Members include: (front row, from left) Hannah Sam of Conehatta, Kayla Mingo and Lacey Willis, both of Choctaw; club president Martika Ball and secretary Joshua Hickman, both of Philadelphia; and (second row, from left) Shawn Smith of Conehatta, Richard Favre of Pearl River, Jeremy Denson of Walnut Grove and Therrick Thomas of Conehatta. Leslie Hughes and Elizabeth Minter are the club sponsors. For more information about ECCC Native American Club, contact club sponsors Hughes or Minter at (601) 635-6219 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222 ext. 220.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Nov. 17, 2013

ECCC PBL OFFICERS

Special to The Star

Serving as Phi Beta Lambda officers at East Central Community College in Decatur are: seated, from left, Cindy Burnside of Decatur, secretary; Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, vice president; and Yashica Ickom of Lake, president; and standing, from left, Tyeshia Meeks of Newton, reporter; and Virginia Easley, historian and Allison Johnson, treasurer, both of Philadelphia. Not pictured is Jeremy Hudson of Philadelphia, parliamentarian. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for students interested in business-related careers.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓

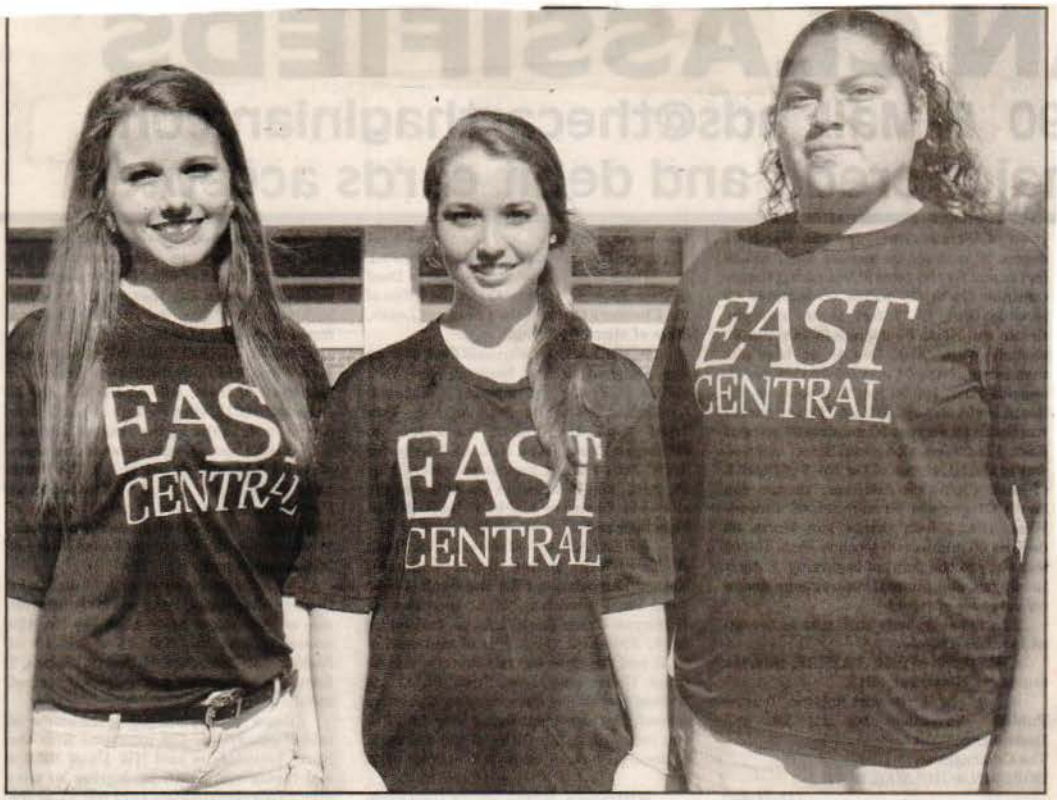
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Week of Nov. 17, 2013



Warrior Corp members

Four Leake County students at East Central Community College are new members of the Warrior Corps, including, from left, Courtney Moore, Emily Cook and Estefania Olmedo, all of Carthage. The corps is students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for special events on the Decatur campus. Not pictured, Kamaran Malone of Carthage

Appeared in:

Carthaginian ✓

Newton County Appeal_____

Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat_____

Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

Clarion-Ledger_____

WEEK OF Nov. 24, 2013

ECCC Gospel

ECCC Gospel Choir

Above are members of the Gospel Choir at East Central Community College in Decatur. They are shown prior to their annual fall concert in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium. Pictured are (front row, from left) Jeremiah Chapman of Newton, Aleisha Bloodsaw of Walnut Grove, Keona Foster of Philadelphia, Aaliyah Smith of Meridian, Jaron Croft of Decatur, Maya Lofton of Polkville, Miata Tatum of Hickory and Charnese Cameron of Morton; (second row, from left) Evone McDonald of Montrose, Daneen Hicks of Louisville, Mercedes Mosley of Meridian, Keyidra Jones of Forest, Contessa Peebles of Philadelphia, Iesha Patrick of Morton, Tammie Triplett of Louisville and Brenda K. Johnson, sponsor; and (back row, from left) Chanobia Boyd of Carthage, T'Keya Backstrom of Philadelphia, Thomas McClelland of Decatur, Thomas Robertson of Forest, Arkeem Johnson of Lauderdale and Quintin Darden of Louisville.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Nov. 24, 2013

East Central Community College sophomore Ryan Godwin of Newton is shown as he performs God Bless America during halftime ceremonies of the Warriors' football game with MS Gulf Coast Community College Thursday, Oct. 24 at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus. Godwin, a music major, is a member of the Ac'cents Show Choir, Concert Choir and the Collegians. He is a product of Newton County High School.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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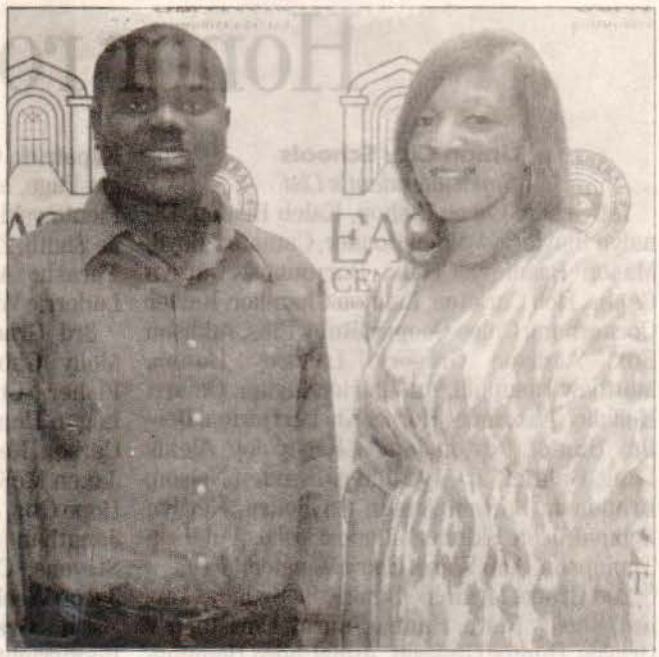
WEEK OF Nov. 24, 2013



Decatur's Croft awarded $1,000

Newton County High School graduat Jaron Croft, left, of Decatur, is the recipient of the Dr. Conrad C. Barnes Jr. Math and Science Scholarship at East Central Community College. The $1,000 scholarship was established in 2013 to honor the life and work of Conrad Clement Barnes Jr. D.M.D, and is awarded to an outstanding student majoring in math or one of the basic sciences at East Central. Dr. Barnes was a long-time resident of Newton County and practiced general dentistry in Natchez for more than 30 years. At right is Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center director/recruiter.

EC photo

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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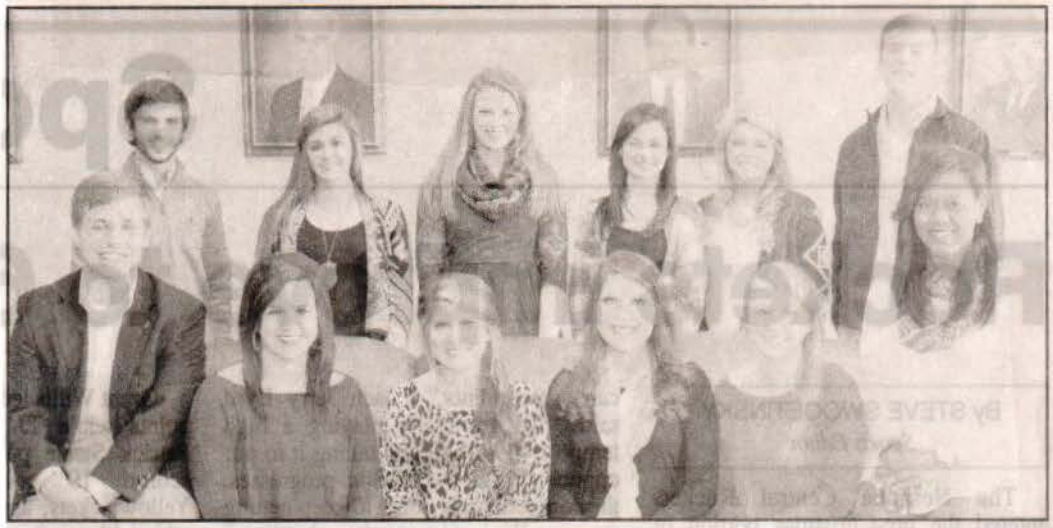
WEEK OF Dec. 1, 2013



ECCC Student Body Association leaders

Selected to lead East Central Community College's student body for 2013-14 are, front row, from left, Clint Walker of Newton, Student Body Association vice president; Allie Killens of Saltillo, SBA president; Sidney Dawkins, DeKalb, sophomore class treasurer; Taylor Gressett of Chunky, sophomore class president; Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, sophomore class vice president; and Jayhonnie Slaughter of Union, sophomore class treasurer and, in back, Zack Killion of Crestwood, Ky., SBA secretary; Kennedy McReynolds, freshman class secretary and Hannah Mitchell, freshman class treasurer, both of Meridian; Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, freshman class president; Mallory Turner of Collinsville, freshman class vice president; and Tyler Pigg of Decatur, SBA treasurer. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Dec. 5 2013

East Central mourns sudden death of student

East Central Community College is mourning the sudden loss of sophomore Early Childhood Education Technology major Marquitta Moore of Newton, who died in her sleep Monday (Dec. 2) night.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said Moore "touched many lives" while attending the college she "loved."

"The college community was saddened to learn about the death of Marquitta," said Dr. Stewart. "She was such a special young lady who touched many lives while a student here at East Central. When I contacted her mother to express our condolences, she told me that Marquitta just loved East Central. I told her that East Central loved her and will miss her greatly."

The 25-year-old was a graduate of Newton High School and is remembered on the ECCC campus for her smile.

"I feel the world has lost a jewel," said Debra Payton, Director of the ECCC Childcare Center and one of Moore's instructors. "Marquitta Moore went to be with Jesus Tuesday (Dec. 3) morning and the childcare center here at East Central will never be the same. When Marquitta entered the center a ray of sunlight followed her. Marquitta loved these babies and showed that each and every moment she spent with them."

Childcare attendant Karen Townsend described Moore as "an exceptional example of what humanity should exude."

"She wore a smile when there were days I am sure she wanted to give up. Marquitta always had a hug and a kind word for me. I never remember one time in the four years I knew her that she was anything but humble and loving."

Childcare attendant Christa Robinson said she remembers Moore coming into the childcare's baby room and always smiling at the babies on the days she had lab.

"She so loved our babies and always had that special smile and loving heart," Robinson said.

Sheri Anders, Moore's adviser and early childhood education technology instructor, described Moore as a very thoughtful and loving person.

"She loved everyone and was always stopping in to visit and make sure that you were doing OK," Anders said. "She was passionate about finishing her degree and determined to make it happen. This week has been very hard during class because her sweet face hasn't been there to greet everyone. She made more of an impact on those around here than she ever realized."

Payton said Moore was a student who overcame adversities.

"Marquitta had special needs but she was never hindered by them," Payton said. "She excelled in everything she did. She had a character full of grit, determination and loyalty. Our world will never be the same without her but we are sure that Heaven is rejoicing at this very moment."

Lead teacher Chafony Evans-Poole who had known Moore since Moore was a child described Moore as the most determined child she has ever known.

Marquitta Moore

"She was truly an inspiration to all. She set out to achieve anything she put her mind to do."

This semester, Moore was in Evans-Poole's lab, the preschool age group.

"Every morning the children looked for her to come and play in the block area where they loved to build castles," Evans-Poole said. "We all know that she is happily building castles in the sky with Jesus and loving on all his little children. The world was a better place because of her."

During her time at ECCC, Moore also was a proud member of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band where she played the clarinet for several years.

Visitation was scheduled from noon to 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9 at Dunlap and Thames Funeral Home in Newton.

Services were noon Tuesday, Dec. 10 at St. Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Newton.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Dec 8, 2013

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Sunday, December 8, 2013

SANTA'S ECCC ELVES

Special to The Star

Students enrolled in the "Warrior Path to Success" program at East Central Community College in Decatur took time away from their studies to collect Christmas toys and other gifts for children at the Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital in Jackson. Participating in the community service project were: front row, from left, Tania Rhodes of Conehatta and Rachel McCord of Newton; and back row, from left, Johnias Ellis of Raleigh, Sharayne Walton of Carthage, Anthony McGee of Quitman, Erica Tubby of Philadelphia and Shanell Nick of Newton. April Watson serves as program instructor.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Dec. 8, 2013

ECCC cheerleader awards

Five East Central Community College cheerleaders received honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet, including, from left, Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya, Academic Award; Hannah Kemp of Leake Academy, Captain Award; Darrin Hillman of Sebastopol, Warrior Award; Payton Smith of Scott Central, Coach's Award; and Maxie Parker of Noxapater, Warrior Award.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Dec. 8, 2013

Harrison Selected for East Central CC Warrior Corps

Harrison

Kimberly Harrison of Forest was recently selected a member of the Warrior Corps at East Central Community College in Decatur. Members of the select group assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for special events on the Decatur campus.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Dec. 15, 2013

ECCC Surgical Technology Graduates

Ready to begin careers in the healthcare field are the above graduates of East Central Community College's Surgical Technology program who were recognized at the annual pinning ceremony held Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Anita Evans of Lawrence, Kristen Carson of Newton, Jada Crain of Morton, Angie Withers of Forest, Meagan Warren of Philadelphia and Taleesha Rice of Columbus. Standing from left are Kristie Pilgrim, instructor; Donna Hickman of Philadelphia; Montana Thomason of Louisville, Angela Stiles and Tina Cargile, both of Forest; Brooke Caraway of Decatur and LeAnn Shirley, program director/instructor. Thomason was selected "Student of the Year." For more information on the ECCC Surgical Technology program, contact Denita Thomas, dean of healthcare education, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is dthomas@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Week of Dec. 15, 2013

Awarded

Brody Richardson (left) of Louisville is the 2013-14 recipient of the Sylvia Graham Haywood Memorial Scholarship provided at East Central Community College in Decatur. Richardson is a freshman liberal arts major from Winston Academy. She is pictured with academic counselor/recruiter Lanette Hanna. The scholarship was established by Mrs. Haywood's husband, Dr. William Thomas Haywood, who served as ECCC business manager and accounting instructor from 1951-58. Mrs. Haywood, a member of the ECCC Class of 1954, served as editor of the Wo-He-Lo yearbook, performed with the Madrigals and was selected May Queen. She was an English teacher and later experienced a successful career as an attorney before losing her battle with cancer at age 48 in 1984. (EC Photo)

Appeared in:

Carthaginian_____

Newton County Appeal_____

Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat_____

Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal ✓

Clarion-Ledger_____

WEEK OF February 10, 2013

Meridian tennis sweeps past ECCC

from school reports

Meridian Community College tennis teams traveled to East Central Community College on last Thursday for a dual match. Meridian's men won 9-0. The women won 7-2; Meridian had to forfeit two courts as the number one player Ivanna Echezuria sprained an ankle in a match last Saturday against Jackson State University there.

In men's doubles action Kevin Millet and Joshua Marx defeated Blake Cochran and Josh Peoples 8-3. At number two doubles Ducky Troutman and Cody Gallenbeck defeated Andrew Hanna and Chris Mays 8-1. Harrison Warren and Reed Wade won the three doubles against Brandon St. Clair and Hunter Mayo 8-3. In singles action Marx won over Cochran 0, 1; Troutman defeated Hanna 0, 3; Millet defeated St. Clair 3, 3; Gallenbeck won over Mays 4, 3; Warren eased past Mayo 2, 2; and Mohammed Waihidi won at no. 6 singles against Lucas Calvert 1, 1.

The men are now 1-1 having lost to Jackson State University on Saturday, Feb. 2 by a score of 9-0.

The women won all seven matches that they were able to play. The number two team of Mallory Davis and Madison Gillette won at no. one doubles against Kelsey Tadlock and Alana Turner 9-8(4). At two doubles Katy Adams and Tara-Beth Hall defeated Haley Chapman and Amber Pierce 8-2. The number three team forfeited due to injury. In singles action, Mallory Davis breezed to an easy victory over Kelsey Tadlock 0, 0; Katy Adams took the win at number 2 defeating Haley Chapman 1, 0; Tara-Beth Hall took a hard-fought match at three 4, 3; Madison Gillette won over Amber Pierce 2, 0; and Molly Davis defeated Nan Hartness at number 5 singles 1, 0. Meridian gave up the number six singles due to injury.

When a team has only six players, the line-up must move up, and the forfeit must come at the bottom.

The women are now 1-1 having lost to Division I Jackson State University on Saturday, Feb. 2.

Both teams will travel to William Carey on February 19 for a dual match.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF February 24, 2013

EC tennis squads fall at Jones County

From school reports

East Central Community College's tennis teams traveled to Jones County Junior College for matches held Feb. 20 on the Ellisville campus.

In women' action, results were as follows:

Doubles — EC's Kelsey Tadlock and Haley Chapman, both products of Newton County High School, fell to Alicia Domoney and Stephanie Smith (8-2), EC's Alana Turner of Florence and Amber Pierce of Leake Academy fell to Brenda Hegwood and Elizabeth Wright (9-70 and EC's Nan Hartness and Hayden Fryery, both of Winston Academy, fell to Madison Walker and Carly Stuart (8-5).

Singles — Tadlock fell to Domoney (6-1, 6-4), Chapman fell to Smith (6-2, 6-1), Turner fell to Hegwood (6-1, 6-2), Pierce fell to Aja White (6-1, 6-2), Hartness fell to Brooke Martin (6-0, 6-0) and Fryery fell to Madison Walker (6-1, 6-1).

Results of men's competition are as follows:

Doubles — EC's Blake Cochran of Newton County and Chris Mays of Louisville fell to Josh Lomas and Tanner Chamblee (9-7), EC's Andrew Hanna of Newton County Academy and Hunter Mayo of Leake Academy fell to Ryan Young and Harrison Thomas (8-4) and EC's Brandon St. Clair of Newton County and Josh Peoples of Leake Academy fell to Caleb Byrd and Jonathan Jones (8-0).

Singles — Hanna defeated Chamblee (6-0, 5-7, 11-9), St. Clair defeated Young (6-4, 6-1) Mayo defeated Luke Holston (6-2, 6-3), Cochran fell to Lomas (6-2, 6-3), Mays fell to Byrd (6-7, 7-9, 6-3, 10-1) and Peoples fell to Daniel Sullivan (1-6, 6-4, 10-6).

Dianne O'Neill serves as EC tennis coach.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 17, 2013

ECCC tennis teams

Members of the 2013 East Central Community College men's tennis team and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Hunter Mayo, Leake Academy; and Chris Mays, Louisville; and (standing from left) Brandon St. Clair and Blake Cochran, both of Newton County; Josh Peoples, Leake Academy; and Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy. Not pictured is Neshoba Central product Lucas Calvert of Louisville. Dianne O'Neill serves as head coach.

Members of the 2013 East Central Community College women's tennis team and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Haley Chapman, Newton County; Nan Hartness, Winston Academy; and Kelsey Tadlock, Newton County; and (standing from left) Alana Turner, Florence; Hayden Fryery, Winston Academy; and Amber Pierce and Hannah Smith, both of Leake Academy. Dianne O'Neill serves as head coach.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC Tennis squads fall

Members of the 2013 East Central Community College women's tennis team and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Haley Chapman, Newton County; Nan Hartness, Winston Academy; and Kelsey Tadlock, Newton County; and (standing from left) Alana Turner, Florence; Hayden Fryery, Winston Academy; and Amber Pierce and Hannah Smith, both of Leake Academy. Dianne O'Neill serves as head coach. (EC Photo)

From press reports

East Central Community College's tennis squads dropped decisions to Hinds Community College in matches held Thursday, March 21 on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Warriors were clipped 6-4 and the Warriors fell by a 5-4 margin.

Results from women's competition are as follows:

Doubles – EC's Kelsey Tadlock and Haley Chapman, both products of Newton County High School, fell to Maria Castril and Laytoya Whitley (8-3), and EC's Alana Turner of Florence and Amber Pierce of Leake Academy fell to Annissa Johnson and Octavia Pendleton (8-4). EC's Nan Hartness and Hayden Fryery, both of Winston Academy, won their match by default.

Singles – Turner defeated Johnson (6-4); Fryery beat Nowell (6-3, 6-0) and Hartness won her match by default. Tadlock fell to Castrill (6-4, 6-2), Chapman fell to Whitley (6-4, 6-3) and Pierce fell to Pendelton (4-6, 6-1, 10-1).

Results from men's competition are as follows:

Doubles – EC was defeated in all three matches, as Blake Cochran of Newton County and Chris Mays of Louisville fell to Yevheniy Horbik and Max Gunbin (8-0), Andrew Hanna of Newton County Academy and Hunter Mayo of Leake Academy fell to Devonte Thomas and Esmond Fountain (8-6), and Brandon St. Clair of Newton County and Josh Peoples of Leake Academy fell to Stuart English and Gary Blissard (8-4).

Singles – St. Clair defeated Thomas (2-6, 6-1, 10-3), Mays defeated Fountain, 7-6 (7-0), 6-2), Mayo defeated Chris Harper 7-6 (7-4), 6-3; Cochran fell to Gunbin 6-0, 6-3; Hanna fell to Horbik, 6-3, 7-6 (11-9); and Peoples fell to English 6-7 (7-1), 6-1.

Dianne O'Neill serves as ECCC tennis coach.

ECCC Men's Tennis Team

Members of the 2013 East Central Community College men's tennis team and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Hunter Mayo, Leake Academy; and Chris Mays, Louisville; and (standing from left) Brandon St. Clair and Blake Cochran, both of Newton County; Josh Peoples, Leake Academy; and Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy. Not pictured is Neshoba Central product Lucas Calvert of Louisville. Dianne O'Neill serves as head coach. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 31, 2013

photo by RANDY LEIGH GRANT

Juan Miranda Signs To Play Tennis For ECCC

Juan Miranda, a senior at Morton High School, recently signed a national letter of intent to play tennis at East Central Community College. Pictured with Juan are his parents Juan and Esther Miranda, Morton Tennis Coach Matt Wade and ECCC Tennis Coaches Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 7, 2013

Two UHS seniors have signed to play tennis at ECCC next year. Pictured at the signing are EC coach Kyle Watson, UHS seniors Ethan Rigdon and Daniel Giles, and EC tennis coach Dianne O'Neill and back row: Deborah and Kevin Rigdon, UHS tennis coach Bryan Norman, Mark Giles, and Pam Giles.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 7, 2013

CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

Morton High School senior Juan Miranda, Jr., center seated, recently signed a national letter of intent to play tennis for East Central Community College. Joining him are his parents, Juan Miranda, Sr., and Esther Miranda. Standing: Asst. Coach EC Dianne O'Neill, Morton Head Coach Matt Wade and EC Head Coach Kyle Watson.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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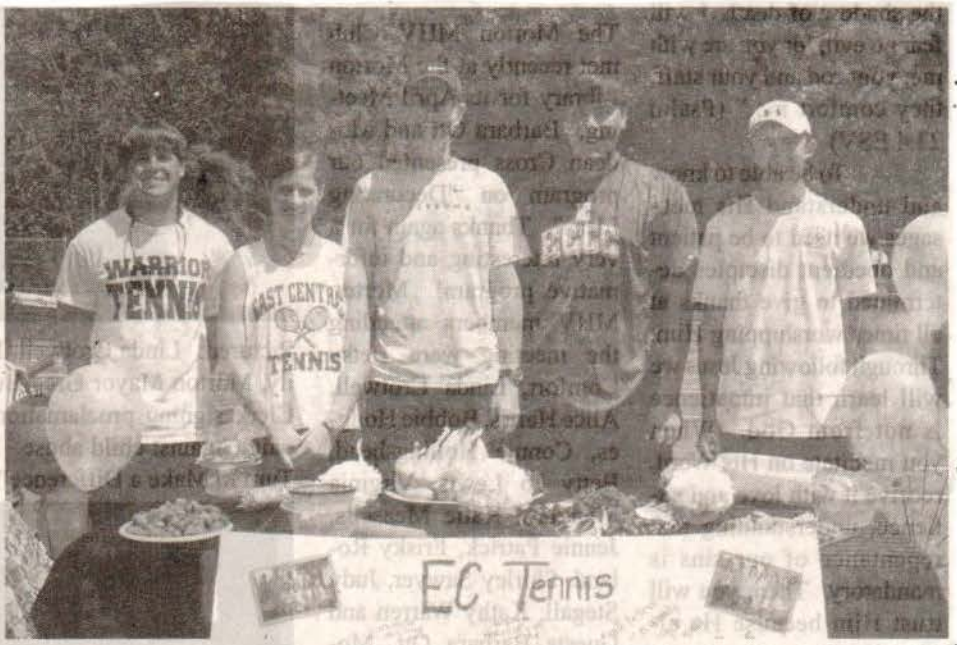
WEEK OF April 28, 2013

ECCC Sophomore Tennis Players Honored



These members of the East Central Community College tennis teams were honored during "Sophomore Appreciation Day," held prior to the group's final home match against Northwest Mississippi Community College on April 15. The Warriors and Lady Warriors both claimed victories in the home finale. Pictured are (from left) Newton County Academy product Andrew Hanna of Union, Kelsey Tadlock of Decatur and Blake Cochran of Hickory, both of Newton County High School; and Leake Academy products Josh Peoples and Hunter Mayo, both of Carthage. Not pictured are Chris Mays of Louisville and Neshoba Central graduate Lucas Calvert of Louisville. Dianne O'Neill serves as tennis coach. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

July 3, 2013

EC tennis squads earn top academic honors

DECATUR – Seven East Central Community College athletic teams and numerous student-athletes were recognized for academic achievement by the National Junior College Athletic Association, according to a news release from the NJCAA Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said the academic honors reflect the type of athletic program the College strives to produce each year.

"East Central's 2020 Vision includes a desire to be 'nationally recognized.' Well, few, if any, of the more than 500 NJCAA community/junior colleges can claim that seven of the 10 athletic teams (70 percent) qualified for NJCAA Academic Team of the Year by earning at least a 3.0 average team grade point average," said Dr. Stewart. "Fewer still can boast that five of their teams finished in the Top Five in the nation with two national Academic Teams of the Year – Men's Tennis and Women's Tennis. In addition to that, 15 East Central student-athletes were recognized for outstanding individual academic achievement.

"Those numbers are remarkable when considering the size of our student body and the number of student-athletes enrolled at our college. I want to congratulate and thank our coaches and our student-athletes for their efforts in the classroom this year. They performed the EC Way – Excellence with Class, and I am so proud of each of them," Stewart said.

ECCC's women's and men's tennis teams received the highest honors as each was recognized as 2012-13 NJCAA Academic Team of the Year.

The Lady Warrior tennis team led the nation with a 3.77 grade point average.

Squad members and their respective high schools include Kelsey Tadlock and Haley Chapman, both of Newton County; Amber Pierce and Hannah Smith, both of Leake Academy; Nan Hartness and Hayden Fryery, both of Winston Academy; and Alana Turner, Florence.

Tadlock also received an NJCAA Award for Exemplary Achievement, presented to student athletes who achieve a 3.60 to 3.79 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

The Warrior tennis squad achieved a 3.76 grade point average to claim the most prestigious national honor.

EC team members and their respective high schools included Blake Cochran and Brandon St. Clair, both of Newton County; Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy; Chris Mays, Louisville; Hunter Mayo and Josh Peoples, both of Leake Academy; and Lucas Calvert, Neshoba Central.

Cochran and Hanna were also recipients of NJCAA Pinnacle Awards for Academic Excellence, presented to student athletes who achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Calvert and Mayo received NJCAA Exemplary Achievement awards.

Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson served as EC tennis coaches.

The Soccer Warriors finished a close second for NJCAA Academic Soccer Team of the Year by p 3.13 grade point average and earning the top honor by tw dredths (.02) of a point.

Team members who NJCAA Awards for Superior A Achievement, presented to stu letes achieving a 3.80 to 3.99 C 4.0 scale, were Zack Killion, a of South Oldham High Sc Crestwood, Ky., and Zach M Leake Academy. Taylor Potter NJCAA Award for Ex Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA is a product of the Mississipp for Math and Science.

Kenneth Thompson serves

See ECCC, p

July 3, 2013

coach.

The State Champion Diamond Warriors placed third for NJCAA Academic Baseball Team of the Year with a 3.35 grade point average. The recognition marks the fourth consecutive year EC's baseball team has finished in the top 20 in the nation and second straight year the squad placed in the top three.

Receiving individual honors were Caleb McKee of Neshoba Central, NJCAA Pinnacle Award for Academic Success (4.0 GPA); Ryan Shotts of Louisville, Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central and Kalik May of Northport (Ala.) High School, NJCAA Awards for Superior Academic Achievement (3.80 - 3.99); and Blake Dubuisson of Long Beach and Puerto Rico native Fernando Gonzalez, who received NJCAA Awards for Exemplary Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA).

Neal Holliman serves as Diamond Warrior head coach.

The Lady Warrior soccer team tied for fourth for NJCAA Academic Women's Soccer Team of the Year honors with a 3.37 grade point average.

Team member Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County received an NJCAA Award for Exemplary Academic Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA).

Since the program's inception in 2005, the Lady Soccer Warriors have never finished lower than sixth in the nation and earned NJCAA Academic Team of the Year honors on three occasions, most recently in 2011 and 2009.

Kenneth Thompson served as Lady Warrior head coach.

EC's softball team tied for 12th in the nation by posting a 3.42 grade point average.

Lady Warrior LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia earned an NJCAA Award for Superior Academic Achievement (3.80 – 3.99 GPA).

Kristin Chaney serves as Lady Diamond Warrior head coach.

EC's golfers finished tied for 23rd in the nation with a 3.15 grade point average.

Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.

More than 1,600 NJCAA student-athletes met the requirements for individual academic honors, including 169 who earned the Pinnacle Award for Academic Excellence (4.0 GPA). Superior Academic Achievement (3.80 – 3.99 GPA) honors went to 592 student-athletes and more than 900 qualified for Exemplary Academic Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA).

Academic team accolades (3.0-plus team GPA) were earned by more than 500 programs with 24 winning the distinction as the Academic Teams of the Year.

This season, close to 60,000 student-athletes competed in the NJCAA across 3,500 teams in 28 different sports.

The 2012-13 academic year marks the 30th consecutive season the NJCAA has recognized the success of is student-athletes in the classroom.

With minimal changes, the NJCAA academic awards program has been in place since 1983.

WEEK OF July 3, 2013

Men's Tennis Team of the Year

The 2013 East Central Community College men's tennis team earned NJCAA Academic Team of the Year honors by achieving a 3.76 grade point average. Team members and their respective high schools include front, from left, Hunter Mayo, Leake Academy; and Chris Mays, Louisville; and back are Brandon St. Clair and Blake Cochran, both of Newton County; Josh Peoples, Leake Academy; and Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy. Not pictured is Neshoba Central product Lucas Calvert of Louisville. Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson served as coaches.

Women's Tennis Team of the Year

The 2013 East Central Community College women's tennis team earned NJCAA Academic Team of the Year honors by achieving a 3.77 grade point average. Team members and their respective high schools include front, from left, Haley Chapman, Newton County; Nan Hartness, Winston back are Alana Turner, Florence; Hayden Fryery, Winston Academy; and Amber Pierce and Hannah Smith, both of Leake Academy. Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson served as coaches.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF July 3, 2013

EC teams recognized for classroom success

From school reports

Seven East Central Community College athletic teams and numerous student-athletes were recognized for academic achievement by the National Junior College Athletic Association, according to a news release from the NJCAA Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo.

ECCC President Billy Stewart said the academic honors reflect the type of athletic program the college strives to produce each year.

"East Central's 2020 Vision includes a desire to be 'nationally recognized.' Well, few, if any, of the more than 500 NJCAA community/junior colleges can claim that seven of the 10 athletic teams (70 percent) qualified for NJCAA Academic Team of the Year by earning at least a 3.0 average team grade point average," said Stewart. "Fewer still can boast that five of their teams

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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July 3 2013

finished in the Top Five in the nation with two national Academic Teams of the Year – Men's Tennis and Women's Tennis. In addition to that, 15 East Central student-athletes were recognized for outstanding individual academic achievement. Those numbers are remarkable when considering the size of our student body and the number of student-athletes enrolled at our college. I want to congratulate and thank our coaches and our student-athletes for their efforts in the classroom this year."

Athletic Director Chris Harris said he is "very proud and appreciative" of EC coaches and student-athletes for their performance in the area of scholastic achievement.

"Their accomplishments in the academic arena are outstanding, both as individuals and as a team," said Harris. "Our coaches are to be commended for their work in this area as they stress academics when we recruit student-athletes to our institution. We would love to win every ball game in which we participate; however, we also want our student-athletes to be positioned when they leave us to be successful in life."

ECCC's women's and men's tennis teams received the highest honors as each was recognized as 2012-13 NJCAA Academic Team of the Year.

The Lady Warrior tennis team led the nation with a 3.77 grade point average.

Squad members and their respective high schools include Kelsey Tadlock and Haley Chapman, both of Newton County; Amber Pierce and Hannah Smith, both of Leake Academy; Nan Hartness and Hayden Fryery, both of Winston Academy; and Alana Turner, Florence.

Tadlock also received an NJCAA Award for Exemplary Achievement, presented to student athletes who achieve a 3.60 to 3.79 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

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Cochran and Hanna were also recipients of NJCAA Pinnacle Awards for Academic Excellence, presented to student athletes who achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Calvert and Mayo received NJCAA Exemplary Achievement awards.

Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson served as EC tennis coaches.

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Team members who received NJCAA Awards for Superior Academic Achievement, presented to student-athletes achieving a 3.80 to 3.99 GPA on a 4.0 scale, were Zack Killion, a product of South Oldham High School, Westport, Ky., and Zach McGuirr of Leake Academy. Taylor Potter earned a NJCAA Award for Exemplary Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA). Potter is a product of the Mississippi School for Math and Science.

Kenneth Thompson serves as head coach.

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Kristin Chaney serves as Lady Diamond Warrior head coach.

EC's golfers finished tied for 23rd in the nation with a 3.15 grade point average.

WEEK OF July 10, 2013

Signed Up

Yarbrough Inks ECCC Tennis Scholarship

Javon Yarbrough (seated, center), a 2013 graduate of Louisville High School, is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his tennis career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Yarbrough, a four-year member of the Wildcat tennis team, won the District Singles Championship and advanced to the second round of the State Class 4A playoffs. He was selected LHS Most Valuable Player and received the Hustle Award. Also pictured are (seated) the signee's parents, Barry and Elaine Yarbrough of Louisville; and (standing, from left) his brother, Dwayne Yarbrough; ECCC tennis coach Dianne O'Neill; and Louisville tennis coach Jeffrey Pilgrim. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 4/4/13-4/13

EC Tennis among top teams in MACJC

From school reports

After earning NJCAA Academic Tennis Teams of the Year honors, the 2013 East Central Community College's Lady Warrior and Warrior tennis squads are also recognized as the top MACJC All-State Academic Teams, according to Jim Southward, Director of Athletics for the Mississippi Community College Board.

Southward noted East Central captured the women's division with a 3.77 team grade point average and the men's division earned the prestigious honor with a 3.76 team GPA.

Numerous ECCC student-athletes also earned MACJC Academic All-State recognition for achieving at least a 3.25 GPA.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said the academic honors earned by the College's student-athletes indicate the type program EC strives to produce each year.

"I want to congratulate and thank our coaches and our student-athletes for their efforts this year," said Dr. Stewart. "They performed the EC Way – Excellence with Class, and I am so proud of each of them!"

See ECCC on page B2

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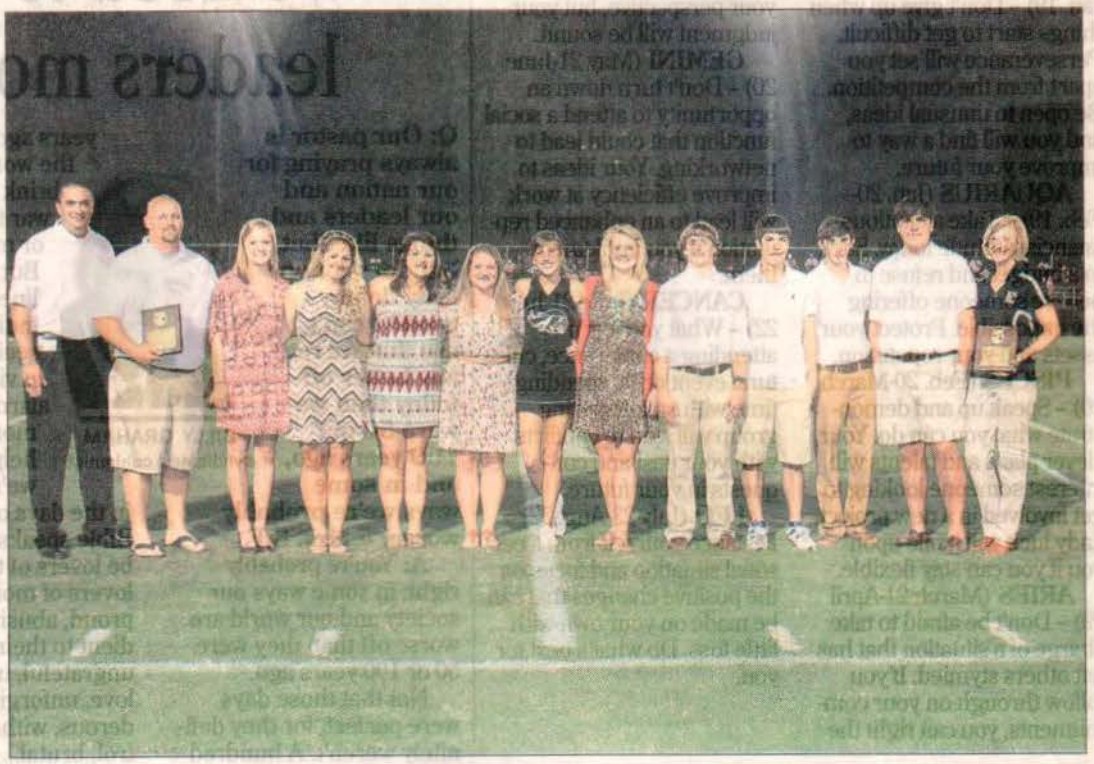
WEEK OF Sept. 15, 2013

HARD COURT WARRIORS RECOGNIZED

ECCC Photo



Special recognition was given to the 2013 East Central Community College tennis teams during halftime ceremonies of the ECCC/Copiah-Lincoln Community College football game Thursday, Sept. 12 at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors were named NJCAA Academic Tennis Teams of the Year and were recognized as MACJC All-State Academic Teams for 2012-13 for their academic success. The Lady Warriors led the nation with a 3.77 grade point average and the Warriors achieved a 3.76 GPA. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart (left) presented NJCAA-provided plaques to each team.

Shown with Dr. Stewart following the presentation are (second from left) Coach Kyle Watson, Lady Warriors Haley Chapman of Hickory, Alana Turner of Florence, Amber Pierce of Walnut Grove, Nan Hartness of Louisville, Hannah Smith of Madden and Hayden Fryery of Louisville; Warriors Andrew Hanna of Union, Brandon St. Clair of Newton, Hunter Mayo and Josh Peoples, both of Carthage; and Coach Dianne O'Neill. Team members unable to attend the ceremony included Kelsey Tadlock of Decatur, Lucas Calvert and Chris Mays, both of Louisville, and Blake Cochran of Hickory.

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